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Old Nottingham

James Granger

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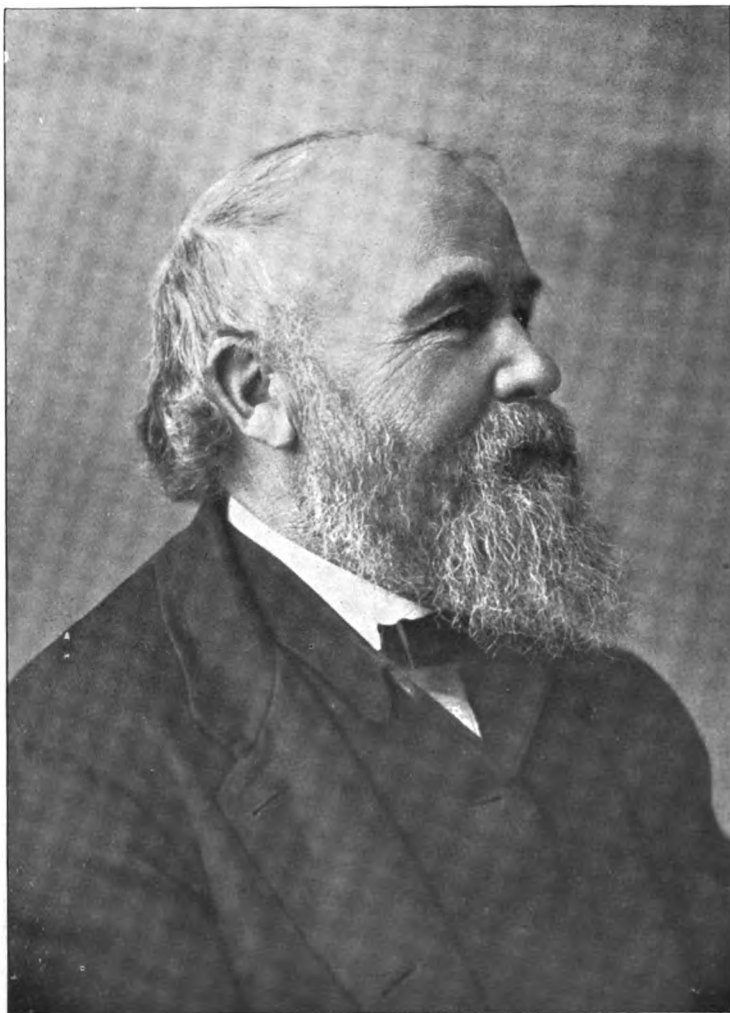
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OLD NOTTINGHAM :

Its Streets, People, &c.

BY

JAMES GRANGER.

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derived much valuable assistance. On various oc-

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PREFACE.

During the last half century or since Bailey wrote his annals, but few additions have been made to the history of Nottingham, yet in that time the advancement in all directions, together with the changes effected, as compared with any similar period, almost exceed belief. The population is now approximately a quarter of a million, as compared with little more than fifty thousands in 1841.

In 1853 William Howie Wylie published an interesting book entitled "Old and New Nottingham." It is not to be termed a history, but contains many sketches of prominent people and of the town. Bailey and Wylie appear to have each published their works in 1853, and few if any others have since followed in their steps.

The present publication, though no doubt historical in character, does not claim to be a history. I have frequently thought that much more of a very interesting nature might be mentioned relating to our "Old Town: Its Streets, People, Names, &c." than what appears in Thoroton's, Deering's, Throsby's, or other histories, and it is largely in this direction that my ideas have run, and as I hope with the result that the doings of our ancestors will be better and more generally understood.

When entering upon this undertaking I had no expectation whatever that my task would have reached to half its present extent, but the receipt of numerous suggestions, with the loan (volunteered) of various matters appropriate to my subject, and the possession of manuscripts, &c., intimately associated therewith, have caused the work to be considerably lengthened. In all cases I have carefully endeavoured to avoid inaccuracies.

It will be observed that I frequently quote from our local historians, &c., but specially refer to the "Borough Records" (5 vols.), from which I have derived much valuable assistance. On various oc-

casions, as an old inhabitant having a good knowledge of the city, I have considered it my duty to take exception to some of the statements or conclusions of the two editors of the "Borough Records," and as a number of other old residents also believe with much reason, for they conflict with matters relating generally to what is within our personal recollection; but this is without the least desire to carp or cavil, but purely for the furtherance of truth, and whilst asking for the favourable consideration of my readers, I most willingly concede it to others.

Errors in orthography, typography, &c., may probably be found, for which I respectfully claim indulgence; hoping that what I have written will prove both interesting and instructive, and my desires will then be fully satisfied.

June, 1902.

JAMES GRANGER.

OLD NOTTINGHAM :

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

I.

As a native and old resident of Nottingham, retaining a distinct recollection of the town in many parts as regards its general appearance, condition, and extent, for between sixty and seventy years, I have long considered that much might still be said respecting it, and of considerable interest, without in any way trespassing upon ground which others have previously occupied. Regarding its general history, but little has been written during recent years; and going back to Throsby's time (1797), his opportunities were much more circumscribed than fortunately is now the case, for increased light and interest has been thrown upon what occurred in the old town and the doings of the people from the publication during the last twenty years by the Council of a large portion of the Borough Records, which, with the chief of our local histories, will form the basis of the remarks which I propose to make on the above subject. These to some extent will apply to the social life of the people, their mode of conducting the business of the town, the various changes therein, &c., and in some degree connect the old town with its more modernised conditions.

When looking back, after the course of a long life, at what the town was in extent as regards the ground it occupied, and then considering its modern development, I acknowledge, with some surprise, the small proportionate increase in the space covered with houses, &c. (taking the old maps as a guide), from about the year 1740 until the years 1835 to 1840—which time will be well remembered by a number of old inhabitants—and how in many cases at those dates the changes in the town had been so few and much less in importance even proportionately to what has since occurred. Though for this there may afterwards be some particulars given which will fully explain the cause of the slow advance made by old Nottingham, and it may perhaps be as well to say that our ancestors had peculiar notions of town government, and even in respect to social life; for, amongst other strange acts, they severely fined many people who presumed to build new or additional houses, and also a number who took lodgers into their houses, and many houses were even ordered to be pulled down when empty so that there should be no accommoda-

tion for strangers coming to the town. Those not freemen or burgesses had, in numerous instances, to close their shops and leave the town; and in other cases, even with burgesses themselves, they were prevented or stopped from carrying on trades, &c., to which they had not been apprenticed; and of these, to us most strange, acts various cases will probably be afterwards mentioned, though this is sufficient to explain the stunted growth of the town from causes more recent than many are aware of; and, without doubt, such unwise proceedings had a deleterious influence upon its expansion, even for many years after they had ceased.

In my recollection it was possible, in two directions, to be in a field but little, if any, more than two hundred yards from the Market-place, where hay was being made. In one case it was near to the north side of a portion of Upper Parliament-street (formerly called Back-side), and also at the lower end of Back-lane on or near the land now occupied by Whitehall's factory, as well as land at the back of where the Theatre Royal now stands and the lower end of Sherwood-street. The second place was at the bottom end on the south side of Derby-road, where some old houses and other buildings, together with the Three Horse Shoes Inn, occupied the frontage from Park-row until near the site of the Albert Hall is reached, from whence to the upper side of College-street there were grass fields, with a hawthorn hedge as a boundary to the road. In an odd house in one of these fields an elderly man named Rippon lived sixty or more years since, who had cows and sold milk, and who was obliged to leave that locality on the enclosure of that part of the town land, which occurred, I believe, about 1840, or a few years before the general enclosure took place. He then went to live at Lenton, and for many years afterwards his son or grandson daily brought milk to Nottingham in a conveyance. Through one of their fields was a well-frequented footpath leading from Derby-road to the "Bay of Biscay" (as it was usually called), on the Park-top.

At the lower end of Derby-road, and at the back of the old houses and buildings mentioned before, were two other fields, one of them being occupied by Mr. William Beighton, hay and corn dealer, who lived in a little old-fashioned house, about fifteen yards below the Three Horse Shoes Inn, and during the haymaking season I was in his field and those of others on many occasions as a youth.

The third person to be mentioned as occupying a

field there was Mr. John Shaw, who for years lived in a house near to the north-eastern corner of what, I believe, is now called Circus-street, and close to Derby-road. By some elderly people he will be remembered for removing bodily a weighing-machine house several yards more on to the land than it was previously, so as to give increased width to Derby-road at that part.

He was, I believe, an original member of the firm of Bayley and Shaw, fellmongers, of Lenton. Towards the latter end of his life his mind appeared to get weak, and at times his actions were unaccountable. In one case he brought a quantity of newly-mown grass from a field a distance away, and had it spread on the dusty road near his house to dry, though this, of course, brought him into contact with the town authorities. Some time afterwards he endeavoured to ride his horse through the Talbot passage, on the Long-row, when Mr. Cheatle occupied it, about forty years since, but as there was a contracted part probably not exceeding six feet in height, through which horses might be led but not ridden, he was injured to such an extent as to cause his death shortly afterwards. For many years a son of his followed the fellmongering business at Grantham, and recently I was sorry to see that he had met with an accident by being thrown out of his conveyance, from which he shortly died. Fifty years since, the lower end of Park-row for sixty or eighty yards was only just sufficiently wide, with a narrow causeway on the east side, and a few stone posts, &c., on the west side (to protect the walls of the buildings), to allow of vehicles passing through, and the buildings were of the most ordinary character. There were two, if not three, houses at the top end of the narrow part, the largest being (with a yard) occupied by a joiner named Gelsthorpe, who, I believe, has still descendants in the city. After passing this house the road was much wider, and the fields were again reached (on the west side), and as forming the boundary on that side, I remember when there was not a house between Gelsthorpe's and the Park, and when crossing the Park no houses were then to be seen in it, nor were any reached until arriving at Lenton. In my early days there were no Park-steps, nor Park-terrace, nor Reservoir at the top of Park-row, where it is now situated. The Barracks were in the Park for many years in my recollection, and horses and cattle grazed there, by arrangement with the Duke's agent.

I remember a large proportion of the houses being built which are on or near to the top of the Park Hills and Ropewalk. In Toll-street are two low houses, on the north-east side, which have one end to the street. They are brick-built and tiled, and are probably the oldest outside of Chapel-bar in that part of the town, which in old records, taking the right side of Derby-road when walking up it, and through to Back-lane, as well as a piece of ground to the right-hand after coming through the Bar was called "The Waste," and is mentioned as such in old deeds of property which I have seen. Possibly this may be further noticed. Where the Theatre Royal now stands in Parliament-street, and including the front land between Sherwood-street and what is now called Goldsmith-street, there were formerly some moderate-sized houses abutting upon or near Parliament-street, and a yard, with a few houses and other buildings in it, belonging in part or wholly to the parents of the late Mr. Fred Henry, of Derby-road, which were probably sold by them to the proprietors of the Theatre Royal before it was erected.

Starting from this part, and going up what was then called Back-lane, but now Wollaton-street, the road on the right-hand was bounded by a field until a few yards past Whitehall's factory (there was no Goldsmith-street at that time), and then there was a row of several moderate-sized three-storey houses, one end of which abutted upon the street, and with a little alteration it still remains there. From these houses until near the top of Back-lane the road was completely bounded by fields on that side, and then a terrace consisting of several houses, and probably from twelve to fifteen feet above the level of the lane, was reached by a flight of steps. At that time the roadway at the top of Back-lane—now Wollaton-street—was very narrow, and towards fifty years since it was increased to its present width, and in carrying out the work these houses were pulled down. At that period, as regards the ground at the back, there were no buildings near, nor were there any streets in the rear, such as is now the case, but all was open ground—that is, unbuilt upon and grass fields. In my recollection there was but one dwelling-house on that side of the road from the top of Back-lane, and proceeding to the Alfreton-road, where the north-east side then formed the boundary of the town as regards buildings, and continuing along it and keeping to the boundary on the right-hand down what

now called ~~Feverell-street~~ to ~~Bentlinck-road~~, the boundary of the town ended and the county began, but there was no other house except the one mentioned in the whole of the distance described (as regards the town) and it was attached to a weighing machine which was fixed in the open space in front of the General Cemetery and near to where the chief entrance now is, and a Mr. Holbrook was the proprietor at that time, and when moved to the top point between Derby-road and Back-lane a son or sons of his attended to it for many years; but since then the town has very properly undertaken the duties. I ought to say that my memory carries me back to the time when there was no General Cemetery. An Act for its provision was, I believe, obtained in 1836, and the next year (1837) burials occurred there, one of the earliest being the wife of the landlord of the public-house called "The Struggler," which then stood upon the ground and in the narrow street now forming a portion of the site upon which the Albert Hotel was afterwards built.

When on the Radford side of the Alfreton-road but little more than 50 years since, and probably less, there was a portion of it where any one could stand and practically see nothing but grass fields between there and the east side of Sherwood-street (at the back of Mansfield-road). The only house in that space that comes to my mind being the old ginger beer house in the upper part of the Bowling Alley, which no doubt many of the older inhabitants of the city will still remember. At that time there was no Arboretum or School of Art or streets, generally speaking, connecting the Alfreton-road or Mansfield-road and the Bowling Alley (practically Waverley-street and fields on each side), nor was there then business to cause much traffic between the two parts, or they must have gone a long way round. Respecting Alfreton-road, I ought further to say that until about 45 years since, at a spot probably a little distance further from the town than Messrs. Thackeray's mill, a chain was fixed across the road at which, under certain conditions, toll could be demanded. My remembrance of it comprised a number of years previously, but I think it must have been removed nearly forty years. On one occasion when on the road I saw a Nottingham gentleman on horseback leap the chain (Mr. James D. Gorse), but the horse caught the chain with a hind foot, when fortunately it broke, or it might possibly have been very un-

pleasant for both horse and rider.

Respecting the boundary of the town on the Alfreton-road, and commencing with the end nearest to the Market—the whole of the road was in the borough—(before the inclusion of Radford) for a few hundreds of yards, and I believe until near Messrs. Thackeray's mill, even including the causeways on each side, and I have in past years frequently heard it stated that where there were no spouts in the part mentioned that the Radford evedrops fell upon Nottingham ground, and that the spouts, window-sills, &c., projected into the town, as the houses were said to have been built close to the boundary of the county.

After passing at or near to Messrs. Thackeray's mill I understood that for some distance half the road belonged to the town and the other part to the county, and on or before reaching the first end of Aspley-terrace the whole of the road then belonged to the county.

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II.

Respecting the north-western outlets to the town, I desire further to say that from sixty to seventy years since there was practically no stone flagging to the causeways, but where there was any attempt on Derby-road and Back-lane to form a pavement it was with large pebbles or boulder stones, otherwise, as occasionally called, "petrified kidneys," and the only place where I remember any flagging was in front of about four houses (as they were then) on the north-east side and at the bottom of Derby-road, where the causeway was paved with Yorkshire stone for half its width and the remainder with boulders.

On the other side of the road boulders were exclusively used on the causeway from Park-row to, or near, the level of the Albert Hall, for there was no street there then, and continuing upward until the higher side of College-street is reached the causeway was merely curbed, without any attempt at paving, even with boulders or gravel, and in wet weather there was sufficient mud to satisfy most people, and this was also the case with the whole of the causeway on the north-east side of Back-lane from Parliament-street to the top as regards the absence of pavements and the presence of slush. About the years 1840-1841 the old Workhouse for St. Nicholas's parish, at the bottom corner of Park-row (nearest to Chapel-bar), as it was then, with its narrow outlet, was occupied by a detachment of the Rifle Brigade, who remained in the town probably for a year or so, and were afterwards for a time relieved by other soldiers of the line, with their red coats.

About the time of my early boyhood a change was made in the level of part of the lower portion of Derby-road, or, as it was then commonly called, Toll House-hill, and with good reason, as may probably be afterwards shown. In making this alteration the road was raised against the Three Horse Shoes Inn, so as to necessitate the making of an area in the front of the house with a descent of three or four steps into it, whilst the opposite side was lowered almost to the same extent, with steps down from the causeway, on which, for a distance, posts and rails were fixed to prevent

accidents. Some years afterwards the causeway was lowered, and additional steps fixed to some of the houses above the pavement. Sixty-five years since there were very few saleshops on Derby-road. In the bottom property, on the north-east side, for instance, near as it was to the Market-place, there was only one shop then where there are five now, and if that is not the correct proportion for the whole of the road on that side I consider that it would be that the shops were less in number than one-fifth. As regards the south-east side of the road I think I may say that in my younger days it could not boast of a single saleshop. It is true that on that side, in the open space on the top of the hill, there were several workshops, including a blacksmiths forge belonging to Mr. Frank Drabwell. These places, and even a couple that were then occupied as houses, were more or less excavated out of the rock, and Mr. F. Drabwell was in that locality one of the earliest, if not the first, to keep a branch post office. I may say that when on the top of Derby-road, on a clear day with the wind in such a position as not to allow the smoke of the town to interfere with the prospect, I have on a number of occasions, when about level with the post office (Mr. Beverley's), been enabled to get a good view of Belvoir Castle, making due allowance for the distance of about nineteen miles. On or near to the spot just mentioned the rock has generally been lowered many feet to allow of the road being used at its present level, and this includes also the upper portion of Wollaton-street. If some of the houses on the south-west side of Derby-road, at or towards the top of the hill, be examined at their backs; it will probably be found that the rock has been cut down in places nearly thirty feet before the present level of the road was reached. There is, according to "The Records," good reason for supposing that a portion of this work of excavating took place two or three hundred years since, though I believe it to have been mainly carried out in the early part of the last century or the latter end of the eighteenth century.

In my early boyhood there were two mills for grinding corn close to the open space, on the top of Derby-road and Wollaton-street. One was near the end of Ropewalk-street where it joins the turnpike road to Derby, and occupied or owned by a Mr. Chimley at or shortly before the time of its demolition, which, I believe, occurred a few years previous to the other. The second mill was situated on

be near the ground which now forms the top end of Upper Talbot-street, and the site of some new mills which are now in course of erection. There was at that time no Talbot-street nor houses near the mill on that side of the road in Back-lane, except the small elevated terrace previously mentioned. It was in the corner of a grass field with an entrance at the top of Back-lane. In each case the ground on which the mills stood was at that time a considerable number of feet above the level of the main roads or streets near them. The name of the person owning or occupying the second mill has escaped my memory.

In my younger days I have frequently seen carts going about the town with fresh drinking water and selling it for a halfpenny per bucket. In past centuries there were nearly twenty public wells or pumps in the town (of which more will be said afterwards), and I can yet remember seven or eight of them in various parts. I have in my early days heard discussions respecting the merit of the water from various town wells or pumps, and its qualification for use in making tea, coffee, &c., some preferring one and some another, which frequently resulted in persons walking a considerably greater distance than to what might be called the well or pump of the district.

Many may probably be surprised to hear that rather less than fifty years since it was possible to obtain in New Radford, on Alfreton-road, &c., a supply of water for household purposes other than, and independent of, the then Nottingham Waterworks Company.

This was from the works (marble, &c.) of Messrs. G. F. and S. J. Walker on Sion-hill, who had for such a purpose a moderate-sized cistern on the premises, into which water was pumped from a well by their engine, which, besides sawing marble, &c., also supplied power for working a number of lace machines. By what I heard from Mr. S. J. Walker I had excellent reasons for supposing that they received five thousand pounds from the Nottingham Waterworks Company for terminating the supply of water from their works to houses, &c., in the locality mentioned.

In addition to these works, Messrs. Walker also owned another place from which in one form or another water had been obtained for many years. This was at the back of some property on the Radford side of Alfreton-road, and about one hundred yards from the Nottingham end. There were two or three houses fronting to Alfre-

ton-road, and the property went through to what was then called Gregory-street, though I have the impression that its name was changed a number of years since. It was possible in varying circumstances and emergencies to obtain a supply from here to aid in any failure or diminution at the Sion Hill Works. The well is 67 yards deep (201 feet). I have seen the bottom of it, which is bell-shaped, with a ledge of probably three-quarters of a yard wide round what appears to be about a hogshead of water in the centre, and which is not more than a foot below the ledge. Yet I heard that with their moderate-sized steam engine, when pumping, that the level of the water only varied a few inches. Whatever might be the character of the water now I cannot say, though I have little doubt that 60 years or even less since, it was of excellent quality and equal to any in the town. At that time (full 50 years back) the well was in a cellar, and was worked by an antiquated steam engine of about five-horse power, the beam of which, I remember, was unfortunately made of foreign oak (so unlike our English oak). In a damp place especially it will gradually weaken to its centre and with a strain be liable to snap, and another oak beam, when I saw it, was in course of being prepared and fixed. I do not know what has become of that old engine—no doubt one of the earliest in Nottingham—though it has probably been removed many years, still it would in that branch of business and in the present day be a great curiosity for the younger folks, especially if it could have been seen at the mechanical workshops of the University or in the Museum. I may say, further, that it was from the last-named well that the water was pumped which to a large extent supplied the carts and which was sold about the town as stated.

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III.

Respecting water for household purposes I ought also to say that there were at least two other private sources from which, in limited districts, it was obtainable (one or the other of them), going back 50 years and more. The first person to be named was a Mr. Rowell, a mechanical engineer, whose business premises were on Derby-road, on the same side as, but a little higher up the hill than, the Milton's Head Inn. I believe that he ceased supplying water earlier than Messrs. Walker or another firm, namely, Messrs. Fisher, of the Factory, at New Radford. I think it probable that Mr. Rowell made no arrangement with and received no compensation from the Nottingham Waterworks Company when terminating his supply, but as regards Messrs. Fisher it is probable that they were treated in a similar way to Messrs. Walker when their provision of water ended. Respecting soldiers being quartered in the town, it may further be said that when their old place near the top of Chapel-bar was not available—though there was probably an interval between their going and coming—accommodation was afterwards found for some in Castle-gate, where they occupied a large house and premises on the same side as St. Nicholas's Church, but rather nearer to the Lister-gate end. I have a recollection of seeing the flames when the Castle was on fire from the upper windows of a house, and of being taken round the Market-place, probably the next day, and observing windows boarded up, &c., which to an older person would no doubt have been a thorough reminder of the rioting which had just occurred. Five years later I well remember going into the Market alone and seeing the Exchange on fire. This was on the 26th November, 1836. Undoubtedly there are others yet living who would also remember some of the circumstances mentioned quite as well as myself, and possibly better if living nearer.

In my time (1829) the level of Milton-street and North-street was lowered. The old name for Milton-street was Boot-lane, and it was, according to old maps, so narrow that in a portion of it there was probably not sufficient room for two ordinary and

modern vehicles to pass each other. At or about the time that the street was newly levelled (1829) the houses on the west side were pulled down, and it was also made considerably wider, but still far too narrow for modern requirements; with electric cars and traffic, which during 72 years has, with the population, extent, and business of the city, so enormously increased, it will with most be comprehended that, having in addition a large and important railway station in such close proximity, the width of Milton-street will not be greater than its requirements if about seven yards more be added to it after the demolition of the shops and premises on the west side, which work is now in progress. I should certainly, with most others, have been pleased if it had happened that our ancestors had made Milton-street of the same width when the first alteration was in progress as Parliament-street, or, better still, in a line with the upper part of Mansfield-road, which is a continuation of the street; but it would, I think, be scant justice to them if they were unduly called to account for not so doing, as I am decidedly of opinion they acted according to their knowledge; and who amongst those at present living would have dared in those days (72 years since) of semi-stagnation, as compared with recent years, to have made full provision for the wonderful development of the town in the many ways which have since occurred? Whatever our wishes may be now, it is probable that our acts then would have been the same in many respects as of those going before us.

I much hope that when the present excellent change is made some thought will be given to the naming of the street, or rather road. Its width, if not the same the whole distance from Parliament-street to Forest and Mapperley-roads, will be so for all useful purposes; and therefore as it is by the other recent changes in width, connected with Trinity Church, new station, &c., made one large whole, there should now especially be one name only applied to it, and that should be Mansfield-road. Previously the lower and narrowest part was Milton-street, and I am not certain where it ended, and the same with many other persons, but still more bewildering to strangers. Then there was Melbourne-street, but where it commenced in its lower part I cannot say, though I believe it ended at Woodborough-road, and if so, according to that objectionable mode of giving names, Mansfield-

road would then begin. This matter ought to be carefully considered. Whilst I am writing this I have before me an old map of the town, dating back about 160 years, and at that time the end of Mansfield-road commenced at the end of Shaw's-lane (now Sherwood-street), and was continued down what is now called North-street, with a few houses on the right hand but bounded by fields on the left, and continuing so, without much doubt from its commencement, until past the town boundary, that is up the whole of Mansfield-road and more. When what is now called North-street reached the road (from Shaw's-lane) a considerable angle was rounded off at the corner of what would then be or was called Burton Leys, and facing near to where the George and Dragon Inn is now situated. As regards distance, the road by Boot-lane was much the most eligible, but the constricted width of part of it to some extent rendered the route by North-street almost imperative. At the time mentioned, the "Road to York" is entered as being by what was afterwards known as Glasshouse-street, which was then bounded by hedges and fields on each side, and this to a large extent also applies to Broad-lane, now Broad-street, in which there were no buildings on the west side and a vacant place or two on the east. In 1839 an Act was passed for enclosing Burton Leys, on Mansfield-road, and the Westcroft in the Meadows. The former had, I think, as good a claim to be considered waste land as that formerly on the outside of the Bar or near the Castle, &c. It was a place with many for depositing manure, and often used in other objectionable ways. In extent it was about four acres, and one of the first pieces of land acquired for building purposes was that upon which Trinity Church now stands, and afterwards for the Mechanics' Institution, the Baptist Chapel, and various houses. In that part the ground has in places been lowered a number of feet to make it convenient to the road. Some years back, when in conversation with an aged friend, he informed me that he could remember corn growing in the fields abutting upon or close to Burton Leys.

Before leaving Mansfield-road it will probably be best to refer to its surroundings, sixty-five years since, and later, respecting the open ground, houses, &c. Any one starting from Parliament-street and walking up the western side would, on reaching North-street, and in probably less than one hundred yards, arrive at the open ground; that is Burton Leys, which, excepting at the end next North-street

and the side next Mansfield-road, was bounded by grass fields, and continuing on that side there was no house or building until arriving a little higher than where the Bluecoat School is now built. (I remember it when on High-pavement). There was at that time no Bluecoat-street, but just above the school there were two or three small houses, which are yet at a considerable elevation and reached by a number of steps and one end of them comes to the road. These were the first buildings to be found on that side from North-street, and from and above them there were houses to the top of the hill when the Forest was reached, and soon after passing the end of which the county commenced at the date mentioned—about 1836. On the west side of the road Back-lane or Alfreton-road was reached. Where Shakespeare-street is now there was formerly a narrow lane from Mansfield-road leading to the Bowling-alley, which is represented by the present Waverley-street, the fields on each side being often termed the Bowling-alley fields, which included part of the Arboretum, and the north-east side of the street from near the end of Shakespeare-street and from about the same place on the south-west side of the street, and also including a portion of the General Cemetery and the lower portions of Cromwell-street, Portland-road, and Raleigh-street, though they were not then formed. According to the "Borough Records" of 1659, vol. 5, p. 304, the upper part of what is now termed Waverley-street was then called Bowling Alley-hill, for it is there "ordered that at the request and desire of George Gregory, Gentleman, Samuel Stables, Gentleman, and divers other Gentlemen and Inhabitants of this Towne, that the Chamberlayns shall forthwith cause a payre of Butts to be builte neare vnto the Bowlings Alley-hill, and Rayle them aboute with a Single Rayle and Stoope (post) for the better preservacion of them." In this immediate neighbourhood mention is made in the "Borough Records" of some names of Da'es, and during the last year or two various statements have at times been made respecting them which to myself and a number of other old inhabitants of the locality did not appear to convey a correct idea of the fact or case as it has come down to us by tradition, and in a future communication I propose to consider the subject further.

Respecting the narrow lane of which Shakespeare-street is the enlarged representative in recent times, which was known by the name of Cross-lane, I men-

tioned it to an old friend as regards its title, and his mind was a blank respecting it, though as something to distinguish it by and also appropriately describing its frequent state he called it Mud-lane, and it would be difficult to find a name more suitable, for the road was practically unmade, undrained, and uncared-for—with deep ruts and in the wet season almost impassable. There were fields on each side where cattle grazed, and hay might be made, and in a case or two land was rented by those of whom I remember some names, for the use of their cows, they being sellers of milk. In this lane there was a cow hovel on the southern side towards the middle, and as being built upon Lammas land, I have no doubt that in former years it had caused some trouble.

This hovel was occupied more than sixty years since by a person named Woodward, residing in Vernon-street, Derby-road. In my younger days I well knew the owner, and frequently went to a field on the northern side of the lanes which, as near as I can guess, would include a large portion of the ground upon which Stratford-square is built and the sites also of a number of other houses nearer to Dryden-street.

Returning again to Mansfield-road, and in reference to the eastern side, it must be mentioned that it was fully bounded by houses up to the level of Woodborough-road, which, going back 60 years and more, was called Fox-lane. In the Chamberlains Account for 1632 there is an interesting entry as follows: "For hewing down both the ways without Chappel Barr, and Fox Lane end, £5 13s. 4d." Compared with our present money value this would, I have little doubt, fully represent from £30 to £40. Amongst other buildings a little lower than Fox-lane and near to Mansfield-road was the old workhouse, formerly belonging to St. Mary's Parish, on the site of which a large brewery has since been erected. Sixty-five years since each of the three parishes in the town had a workhouse. St. Peter's was in Broad-marsh, and St. Nicholas's was at the bottom of Park-row, but the three parishes were united for poor law purposes in July, 1836. On Mansfield-road, except an old house or two near Fox-lane, none were then to be found on the east side until a public-house was reached, which is called the Nag's Head, then there was a block of houses reaching up to where Great Alfred-street now joins the road, and from that spot, except possibly an odd one here

and there, scarcely a house was to be found on that side sixty or more years since until Sherwood was reached

OLD NOTTINGHAM:

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

IV.

I desire still to continue my reference to Mansfield-road, with the adjacent land, &c., on its eastern side, and also to what in some cases will be found to the south-east. I am glad to have my memory assisted by an excellent plan of the town, together with the land connected therewith; also of the Castle, and including parts of the parishes of Lenton, Radford, and Sneinton, at that period in the county of Nottingham, from surveys made in the years 1827-1828 and 1829 by E. Staveley and H. M. Wood. In 1848, or nineteen years later, Mr. H. M. Wood having made a fresh survey, published another large plan of the town, &c., &c., where he shows in colours the land and other property pertaining to the Chamber and Bridge Estates belonging to the Nottingham Corporation, both large and small, in and around the town; the instances being very numerous, and they will be found included in most of the districts of the town. The Inclosures Act was finally passed on the 30th of June, 1845, having on that day received the Royal assent. From this it will be perceived that the first-named map shows the town, &c., as it was sixteen years before the inclosure of the land; and the second map enables us to see to a large degree what changes had taken place during the previous nineteen years, and they are very perceptible on the west side of Toll House-hill, &c. As regards the first map, Mr. Staveley was, I believe, the Town Surveyor at that date, and Mr. Wood had taken his place when the second map was issued or published.

In 1829, and almost the same in 1848, except perhaps in each case it might be for foot-passengers, the roads to the top of Mapperley Hill were of a very primitive character, and in some parts but little more than mere cart tracks, the top being called Mapperley Hill Common. Some portion of the road which at that time—at the end against Mansfield-road—was known as Fox-lane, was in some or all of the remainder known by the name of Goose Worg-lane. At this time—72 years since—there is nothing to show that the suburb we now call Mapperley had any existence, though this can scarcely be wondered at from the objectionable state

of the roads in almost every way, for they were generally ill-made, unlevel, and narrow, which undoubtedly would have a repressive influence upon a trade such as brickmaking, which chiefly has to be relied upon in that part; therefore, the locality was avoided to a large degree. On July 15th, 1850, the Nottingham and Grantham Railway was opened by the Great Northern Railway Company, and from about that period the commencement may be said to have been made of the immense improvement in every form connected with that road. On an average, from what is now called Huntingdon-street until Mapperley is reached, the width of the road must have been nearly doubled, the hills have been lowered or their gradients made much more convenient or easy, and to a certain extent the valleys were raised; though in carrying out this work a place had to be found for an enormous amount of clay, &c., in excess of the requirements. But, as it fortunately occurred at the time, there was a place in the town where the necessity of having it was, I think I might say, even greater than of those desiring to part with the surplus soil. It was essential for the Great Northern Railway Company to have all and even more than could be spared from that change in the Mapperley Hill-road to raise their railway station, yard, &c., comprising many acres, in the East Croft, a number of feet for a great part of its extent above its former level. Respecting this matter, I believe I should be right if I asserted that a strong inducement was held out by the Great Northern Railway Company to induce the town to undertake this work, of what I will call regulating the road, which no doubt caused it to be more thoroughly and effectively carried out than it might otherwise have been, and in its result much more beneficial to each party. Of course the road even yet is hilly, which it is impossible to avoid, but in other respects for its purpose it has few superiors. Fifty-four years since, and probably a few years less, there was no Mapperley-road, as now, to the east; when on the top of Mansfield-road, that is entirely additional, though if passing on northward until level with the lower side of the present Boulevard, or a trifle further and still to the right, we arrive at what is now called Redcliffe-road, but formerly named Red-lane. This in bygone years was frequently in a terrible condition for traffic, and I have heard maledictions both loud and deep

in the part respecting its state, which, when very imperfectly made, and but little attended to, in addition to the ground being chiefly composed of clay, can be easily accounted for. As in the previous case so in this, the road has in all points, I think I may affirm been since made in a most excellent manner, and except what may be said of the hill, the way out of the city by Mapperley will bear comparison with any other and surpass most, if not all, in beautiful scenery and invigorating air. In 1829 nothing was known of Melbourn-street, that ridiculous addition on Mansfield-road had not then been perpetrated, though Boot-lane was succeeded by a much wider Milton-street, which appears to have extended at that time from Parliament-street to Charlotte-street on the right and the dirty Cross-lane on the left, and from thence it had one name only—Mansfield-road.

From Charlotte-street (as it then was) to Bond-street, which as regards position is now represented by the new street passing over the iron bridge of the Victoria Station; and between Mansfield-road and York-street—at that date—which merely covered about three acres, there was for the space mentioned a fair quantity of houses, but with the remainder of the road when going northwards to the top of the hill, whether to the right hand or the left, there was in no place more than a mere fringe of houses, and it was possible for a pedestrian practically to be in the country either east or west in a few minutes from that portion of the town.

Respecting Sherwood-street, it was then named Shaw's-lane, from Parliament-street to Babbington-street, which is what may be called the eastern end of the present Peel-street. The upper end and northern part was then, as now, styled Sherwood-street. From Babbington-street to the top of Sherwood-street the houses, &c., were almost continuous on the eastern side, whilst on the western side there was not a single building of any kind; but the ordinary field hedges formed the boundary, and even in the part called Shaw's-lane, except at the Parliament-street end, where about three houses are shown on each side; there were no other buildings in it, and for the most part none near for a long time after the year 1829. Seventy-two years since both sides of Glasshouse-street were almost filled up with houses, &c., and the street is shown as reaching from Lower Parliament-street to Charlotte-street as it was, previous to the building of the new Victoria Station, or to St.

Ann's-street as it still remains, and then a continuation was called York-street until reaching Mansfield-road, though I think we may say as with a number of other minor streets, &c., &c., the new station has caused it to a very great degree if not completely so to become a thing of the past. Most of our fellow citizens will still remember York-street with its close'y packed buildings and of smaller streets, &c., running into it, more particularly from the east, whereas in 1829 there was not one of the smaller streets connected with it, but in place thereof there were gaps between the houses on that side, as the land had not then all been taken up for building purposes. At the same time there were no other houses except those forming the frontage, and this was the condition of things also in the case of St. Ann's-street on its northern side, which for nearly half its length was then unbuilt upon.

On that side of St. Ann's-street and at the back of the houses on the eastern side of the whole of York-street the ground was then let for gardens, and this was the case also on Mansfield-road from where York-street ended on the south side of Woodborough-road or Fox's-lane as then called. For from Woodborough-road until just below the Nag's Head Inn, the ground between Mansfield-road and what I believe is now called Huntingdon-street, is shown to be almost exclusively gardens. When going eastward through St. Ann's-street in 1829 we arrive at a lane entirely bounded by fields on each side, of which Union-road is the present representative. Between Fox's-lane or Goose Wong-lane (having passed down the lane now called Huntingdon-street), and what is now named Union-road, there were four fields to the left, some of them of a fair length but narrow. On the southern side of Union-road there were also four fields, and on its northern side one large and long field extending from the top of the road to or near where Great Alfred-street is now made, and it happens to be named much as it is now, for on the map it says "To St. Ann's Well, Coppice, Lambley, &c."

Seventy-two years since Beck-street was known as Beck Barn, and going towards St. Ann's Well, the fields on the right hand were reached where the Burial Ground is now, and on that side there is no other building afterwards shown as being in the town. On the opposite side of the road the houses extended probably 50 to 60 yards further, but not so far as the ground taken up by the new works for electrical purposes, and afterwards it was a plea-

sant country walk to the Well, and on much of the road there was scarcely a house in sight. This condition of things is well in my remembrance, and undoubtedly of many others also; but compare that time and the locality with its modern state, and large numbers of streets completely filled with houses, and other buildings, in amount sufficient to form a good sized town. The road to St. Ann's Well, or where it once was, is to a large extent now lined with houses, and in the remaining portion many are to be seen. It is no longer a country walk to that spot.

OLD NOTTINGHAM:

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

V.

I desire to commence this letter with some remarks having reference to the town, lands, boundaries, &c., in or near Sneinton, and to the south-east of Nottingham. In 1829, and for many years after, there was scarcely a house to be seen in the whole of the ground between St. Ann's Well-road and the road to Carlton, beginning with and including what is known by the name of Sneinton Market, though really in St. Mary's parish, Nottingham. The houses at the south-west side of the Market were in 1829, as regards buildings, the last in the town on the road towards Carlton, and they remained so, I think I am warranted in stating, from twenty-two to twenty-five years afterwards.

Passing the road to Carlton, and keeping to the north-western side probably for about three hundred yards, or a little more, Longhedge-lane was reached, and continuing along which, on the right, and also mainly south-east, it formed the boundary of the town on the side next to Sneinton. Seventy years since, and even considerably later, a great part of the town lands in and near to Longhedge-lane were really in the country, and as free from houses as St. Ann's Well-road at the same date. In 1829 Manvers-street, which is now a main street out of the town leading towards the Hermitage and Colwick-road, was then a mere cul de sac, ending in a field just after it had reached Pierrepont-street. There was then, as in later years, a footpath across the fields to Old Sneinton, which at one part passed the churchyard on its south side. I well remember this old footroad, and am inclined to think that it has since been more or less absorbed by streets running in the same direction. When on this footpath, about fifty yards from Pennyfoot-stile, there was another path, branching off to the right, which was then called "The Footway to Colwick, &c.," and continuing on it the path went by Sneinton Hermitage, which at that time was a thoroughfare for foot passengers only, and if any vehicle was required at one of those houses in 1829, and later, it would have to be taken by road from the further end. At that period the nearest houses to the Hermitage would no doubt be some in Old

Sneinton.

To make amends for a slight omission, I must return once more to what was formerly called Beck Barn (now Beck-street), and in reference to the field which has since (1831-2) frequently been entitled the Cholera Burial Ground, to say that until a much more recent date than 1829 there was no road or street at the side nearest to the body of the town which led to Sneinton, and also that the bottom end of what is now called Beck-street, and on its eastern side a little in the rear of the front buildings, and having an entrance from Brook-street, the old pottery was situated, at which excellent brown-ware was made, of which some samples may be seen in the Castle Museum. It appears that a Mr. Morley, who was once a maker of this ware, and prospered in his business, erected the house, &c., in Beck-lane (now Heathcote-street), which more or less forms the People's Hall. This trade has been discontinued in the town a great length of time, probably one hundred years or more. For the whole of the period that the pottery was in work there seems to be no doubt that it was, with various buildings attached to it, beyond the radius of the town proper by the width of two or three fields, though there appears little room for uncertainty that its site is occupied by the foundry and ironworks now or formerly in the occupation of Mr. G. R. Cowen, having Brook-street on one side and Bath-street on the other. The former, as shown on the map, was made before 1829, but as regards the latter a number of years appear to have elapsed before that easy means of access to Sneinton from Beck-street was provided for what even then was practically to unite two parts of the same town. I believe that, with Bath-street as a continuation of and being near to the bottom of the large and important street now in course of construction through the grounds of the late House of Correction and other parts to St. Ann's-road, they are further proposing to make a wide street or boulevard, running by Sneinton Market through various properties, describing a quarter circle in shape, and emerging on the London-road opposite the end of Leen-side, otherwise Canal-street. This will certainly open up and allow of much more light and air in a congested district, and give far easier means of access to various parts of the city, and at the same time greatly aid in completing a valuable circle of boulevards round the city.

At the present time the north-eastern end of Carter-

gate, or the end of Sneinton-street, is the commencement of the Southwell-road according to the names affixed to the walls, but on the map published even as late as 1848 the part of the road between the end of Carter-gate and extending past Manvers-street and probably to Sneinton-road and reaching to the east end of where the Market is now, was called Old Glasshouse-street, and I think it probable that it could really claim to be the original street of that name, for on an old engraving in my possession two buildings are shown in that district where glass was made at least 150 or 160 years since, and probably not less than 200 years back, though no doubt that business has been long concluded. Of course, most Nottingham people will know of the present Glasshouse-street, the bottom part of which commences in Lower Parliament-street, opposite the end of Broad-street, and ran northward to Charlotte-street, previous to the alterations carried out in making the new Central or Victoria Station, but under the greatly changed circumstances this street, as regards its title, ought to be continued now to the road uniting St. Ann's-street and Mansfield-road. I have sometimes had my curiosity excited to find a reason for giving this street the name it has when there was another street with the same, but I have not at present found anything to decide that point, though I have no knowledge of any glass works ever being in that locality.

Whilst remarking upon this part of the old town, I desire to make further reference to what at various times has been called Penyfotlane, Penyfutlane, Penyfotelane, Pennyfoote-lane, Pennyfoot-row, and now Pennyfoot-stile. The first four of these names are taken from the Town Records, commencing in the year 1397, and the fifth is from Deering's "History of Nottingham," which was published 150 years since; and as regards the Town Records the fifth volume includes matters connected with the borough to the year 1702. In this and most, if not all, of the preceding volumes at their terminations, and in the list of names of streets, fields, &c., we are in effect told, as in the first volume, that Penyfotlane or Penyfutlane is the equivalent to Pennyfoot-stile, and in the fifth or last volume that has at present been issued Pennyfoot-lane is entered as being mentioned on page 122, and that its modern title or distinguishing name is Pennyfoot-stile. I have read the various volumes of the Records with intense interest and pleasure, and in anything I may say respecting them it is

without the least idea of being captious, but to merely elicit and establish what may possibly prove to be the real facts of the case. I esteem the work done by Messrs. W. H. Stevenson and W. T. Baker in connection with the Town Records too highly for me to show anything but appreciation and regard for their labours as editors, and if I take exception to any matters or remarks respecting the Records I cannot do better than repeat what has been so well said by Mr. W. T. Baker, in his introduction to the last volume, when noticing some errors in Bailey's "Annals," and his correcting them, that it is "in no censorious spirit, but merely as a matter of duty," that I notify any case or cases in the Town Records which appear to me to need rectification. This explanation will also apply to what I may say in a future letter in which I propose to make some reference to statements which I and various other old inhabitants consider as erroneous, regarding the dates, &c., on the north-western side of the old town.

Since Deering's "History of Nottingham" was published in 1751 great changes have taken place eastward of the angle formed by the meeting place of Carter-gate and Fisher-gate. In Deering's time, and previous, Pennyfoot-lane, or what he terms Pennyfoot-row, extended eastward from the junction of Carter-gate and Fisher-gate to what was then called Back-lane, but subsequently altered to Water-lane. Some time afterwards Pennyfoot-row was renamed, and probably this occurred near 1780, for in or about that year Willoughby's Hospital was built in Pennyfoot-row, and it was then called Willoughby-row. According to the old map of the town, this road was at that time a narrow one, though such as vehicles could possibly get through, if they could not pass each other. It was, no doubt, called a "row," because the houses on the north side filled up the length of the street, whilst on the south side, in Deering's time, three-fifths of the street was unbuilt upon, and it was practically in the same state in 1829, or 78 years after. In my recollection, great alterations have taken place in the immediate neighbourhood of this part. Willoughby-row has been, I consider, doubled in width as a street, and also in an increased degree the part now called Pennyfoot-stile, in which a church (St. Philip's, I think, it is named) has been built. After these more recent changes the old Pennyfoot-row has once more had another name given to it, and on this occasion it is Fisher-gate, for it is extended in that direction, and the old Pennyfoot-

row is now absorbed in it, though, no doubt to most people it was at that period only known as Willoughby-row. I have thus shown that the old Pennyfoot-lane or row and the modern Pennyfoot-street or Pennyfoot-stile are not the same place with another name. I think there can be no doubt that the old name of Penyfut or Penyfot-lane has been superseded, and its title annulled; for about 120 years, and therefore not in the memory of anyone living, though in the interests of truth it is, fortunately, possible to obtain some further knowledge upon this subject by referring to Deering's History of the Town, for in it the old map gives us a good idea of that locality, and the connection of one part with the other; and this is rendered still more easy of comprehension by an excellent engraving of the south-eastern portion of the town as it was 150 years since, and in it the foot-stile is plainly shown from which the lane or street has taken its name, but it is at the end of a narrow footpath, apparently only two to three yards in width, between gardens, and having a boundary or fence wall on one side and a hedge on the other. At this spot the little rivulet called "The Beck" appears to form the boundary between Nottingham and Sneinton, the stile being close to it on the western or Nottingham side, and over the water there appears to have been some wooden planks laid to enable foot passengers to cross it. I believe that, with the demolition of houses and the great addition made to the width of the various streets, &c., it is almost possible to see at the present day through the length of Pennyfoot-stile and Fisher-gate to Plumpton-square; but, with a bend in the road and houses obstructing the view, it was not possible in olden times, according to the engraving mentioned, to see anything even of Pennyfoot-lane or row from Pennyfoot-stile, and to get there it would be necessary to partly pass round a house or other building. When these matters are fully examined, including maps, engravings, &c., I think it will be generally allowed that Pennyfoot-lane or row and Pennyfoot-stile are places that were formerly quite distinct from each other, and I consider that the reprehensible system of unnecessarily and thoughtlessly changing the names of our streets, &c., is in a great degree responsible for many errors of a similar nature which have occurred. In 1751 there is no brickwork visible in this part of the town (eastern side) to the south of the wall forming one side of the foot-path to Pennyfoot-stile; and London-road, with its

various archways &c., is plainly shown on the engraving mentioned; but a most surprising circumstance to most in modern times with its enormous changes will be to observe how few and small the alterations or additions in that part had been during the years 1751 until 1829—the vacant ground, country footpaths, &c., were practically the same at the latter date as at the former

OLD NOTTINGHAM:

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.



VI.

I propose on this occasion, with your permission, to take into consideration the southern side of the town as regards its various outlets in that direction, together with a number of changes and additions which have been made in that part, though chiefly such as will still be retained in remembrance by a large portion of the older inhabitants. In doing this I am glad to be assisted by some excellent maps dating from various periods and which fully explain the extent, &c., of the town on that side for the last two to three centuries, though more particularly my references for the instant at least will probably be to what is in living memory.

To the present generation, with such means of egress southward as we now possess, it will no doubt cause much wonder, when fully informed of the extremely poor provision of such necessary facilities even as late as 1840 to 1846, which was from the first to the seventh year after the opening of the Midland Railway (1839). At that time, if with a conveyance heavily loaded the course taken from the Market-place to the Trent Bridge, &c., would probably be by Clumber-street, Lower Parliament-street, to Coalpit-lane, then to Carter-gate, Fisher-gate, and London-road. When not heavily loaded it would be possible to make use of Goose-gate to get southward, and with a light conveyance probably the road by Bridlesmith-gate, High-pavement, and Hollow Stone might be used. It is no less singular than true that until 1845 (at the latter end, I believe, and about the time when the Queen and Prince Albert drove through the town) there was no possibility of getting on London-road with a conveyance south of the Market-place except by way of Low-pavement, High-pavement, &c., or Broad-marsh and Narrow-marsh, or by Carrington-street and Leen-side, and a part which was afterwards called Canal-street. Sixty-five years since, except the house connected with the Toll Bar and a house or two near to the Trent Bridge, there were no houses whatever, I may say, belonging to the town; the whole of the Meadows and road being entirely clear of them. If there was a small

hovel used for horses or cattle here and there that would comprise the whole of the buildings. The most southern houses in the town were those on the Leen-side nearest the canal on its north side.

I have in my younger days on various occasions in times of flood stood upon the southern bank of the canal, before the time of railways or stations, and seen boats sailing about on what was really a small lake, and covering the ground where the Midland passenger and luggage stations are now built, and including their yards, also the sites of Station-street, Arkwright-street, with other streets branching therefrom, &c. At that time, as there were no bridges over the railway, as at present, nor houses to obstruct the view, much water might be seen upwards when the Trent overflowed its banks after a rainy season.

Until about the year 1842 the roads leading southward from the Market-place compared with those at present in existence were such (except Carrington-street) as had generally been in use for generations by our forefathers, and in places were cramped to a most unpleasant and troublesome degree. Until 1846 when Albert-street was formed, there was no direct outlet from the Market by Lister-gate, &c., to the railway except by way of Church-lane, which at that time was at no place wider than the lower end is at present. This was the first place, I believe, in the town where it was necessary to station a policeman to regulate the traffic, for the width of the lane was not sufficient to allow of vehicles passing each other, and therefore it continually happened that there was a number waiting either at the upper or lower end to take their turn in passing through, and it was not uncommon for a dozen and sometimes more to be there wishing for their opportunity to come. Occasionally incidents occurred which had the effect of entirely disorganising the traffic. Accidents happen in most places, though occasionally they appear to be at the most inconvenient or undesirable time or place, and this occurred in Church-lane. I formerly knew Mr. Toyne, a miller of the town, who having purchased some corn a load was sent for, which in the ordinary course would have to come through this lane on its way to a mill on the Forest, and unfortunately when in it an axle-tree broke, which for a time caused a complete stoppage of the heavy traffic of that part of the town. Such accidents were not singular, and their undesirableness in similar cases by delay to large numbers

of persons may be more easily imagined than described. This serious inconvenience and loss to the trade of the town positively remained unremedied (according to dates given us) for seven years after the opening of the Midland Railway station (May 30, 1839), for Albert-street as mentioned was not formed until 1846. To most of us in these days it must appear strange that our ancestors could by any possibility remain quiescent under such circumstances for so long a period and not feel impelled to effect the needful alterations, but they moved slowly in past years, as is evidenced in many other matters, and occasionally in the wrong way if we are to be guided by modern notions.

Until about ten years since, and probably less, Wheeler-gate was, at the top part, only about two-thirds, and at the bottom but little, if any, more than one-third its present width, and undoubtedly there had for many years been a strong claim upon the town for its alteration before it was carried out. Respecting Lister-gate, it appears to have been widened in 1865, and at the same time a considerable alteration was made in its level, the gradient being now much more easy than it was in olden times. If the widening of Albert-street and Lister-gate had occurred in 1901 in place of 1846 and 1865 I have no doubt that in the result it would be a few yards wider in each case than it now is, or the same possibly as Milton-street will be when finished, but in 1865 no one had thought of such things as trams of any kind running in the streets, and especially such as we possess in those driven by electricity, and therefore it would be bare justice to harshly judge our forefathers for not preparing or providing for trams or any other matter of which they had no knowledge whatever.

Respecting Carrington-street, it is, comparatively speaking, of modern formation. There was nothing of the sort in Deering's time (1750). At that period there were two fields, which, with a number of gardens, practically filled up the whole of the space bounded by Broad-marsh on the north, the River Leen on the south, Turn Calf-alley on the east, and Gray Fryers-gate on the west, and according to the plan there were nearly forty large trees then standing on the ground. It is true there were a few houses upon it, but in number as compared with the land of little account. Coming down to 1829, we get to the time when Carrington-street had been formed, but very much the greater part was then unbuilt upon. Commencing at its junction with Broad-

marsh, there was a good-sized piece of ground having a frontage both to the street and the Marsh, which land was quite clear of buildings then. According to the map there must have been a frontage found (when making the street) to land connected with or belonging to St. Peter's parish, the Workhouse, and burying ground. On this it appears as though six or seven houses or shops had been built, but there were no others on the east side, which left full three-quarters of the frontage vacant. On the opposite, or west side, the ground was enclosed for Collin's Hospital, as it is now, excepting the portion at the end near the Walter Fountain, which was acquired a number of years since (probably 20) for the purpose of increasing the space in the streets or the square. At that time there was only one block of buildings connected with the hospital, and that the one next to Carrington-street. Excepting a couple of buildings at the south-east corner of Collins-street there were no other erections of any kind on that side of Carrington-street nor even for a short distance after turning the corner into Canal-street. On the eastern side of Grey Friar-gate for more than three-quarters of its length there was not one house to be found at that time (1829), nor was there one in Melville-street although it was formed, nor in a large portion of Collins-street. This date is but ten years before the Midland Railway commenced running at Nottingham, and the map of that time shows that Carrington-street ended on reaching Canal-street. It was in that year, 1829 (April), that steps were taken for arching the River Leen over in the part where it ran through the town, for before then it appears to have been an open rivulet.

At that date and after when going down from the Castle Lodge by Brewhouse-yard on arriving at the bottom of the hill, it will be remembered by many that the Leen ran close to the houses and other buildings on the north side of Canal-street, there being no street, nor room for one, between it and them, and this continued to be the case until within a small space of Knotted-alley, when the width between the houses had considerably increased for a distance, and the Leen turned more southward, and here it had a bridge over it on which vehicles could pass and get to London-road. The first or upper part of the road I have described was called Canal-street, but after passing the bridge mentioned it was called Leen-side until London-road was reached. In a short distance eastward of the

bridge and before reaching Pelt-alley, the Leen followed its course at the back of the houses, &c., and amongst the buildings on the south side of the road. In the part called Canal-street in places where other streets, &c., abutted upon it, seven or eight small bridges had been made for the purpose of passing over it, and this arrangement was also carried out on Leen-side. One of these bridges was at the end of Turn Calf-alley, which was near the footway (during the last century) to another bridge for foot passengers, which is still on the same spot, and crosses the Canal. In former times the footpath then branched off south-eastward across the Meadows, until it reached London-road at or near the end of Kirke White-street. There was one more footroad to make up the total outlets on the south side of the town, and that formed the communication between Nottingham and the south by way of Wilford Ferry, as many will yet remember it. In 1829 the roadway (Wilford-street) was constructed to allow of ordinary traffic to the Navigation Bridge, and onward there was, according to the map, a footway to the Ferry and Wilford, though I am very much inclined to think that horses could also be brought that way. In 1751 there was a field or piece of land on the east side of Turn Calf-alley, which was covered with trees, and there were also many trees on each side of the Leen near the town. At that date the Leen-side was not a thoroughfare for much more than three-fourths of the distance from London-road to the Wooden Bridge and the footway from Turn Calf-alley, then but few houses had been built to the south of those in Narrow-marsh, and nearly the whole of the ground on which there are now so many courts, alleys, and yards was divided up into gardens. At that period there was no Canal-street, nor any Canal to give it a name.

OLD NOTTINGHAM :

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

VII.

Before concluding my remarks respecting the southern side of Nottingham, together with its outlets, &c., I think it will be better to mention a few more matters which are connected therewith. According to the Date Book, it appears that an Act of Parliament was passed in May, 1791 for the construction of a canal. On July 30, 1792, the first sod was cut, and on July 30th, 1793 (twelve months after) the newly-formed canal was formally opened. At the present time it has, therefore, been in use rather more than 108 years. It was, no doubt, about the time when the Canal was made that Canal-street was formed. According to Deering (1750) there was no direct communication from Turncalf-alley in his time either with London-road to the east or Gray Fryer's-gate to the west, nor between Gray Fryer's-gate and Brewhouse-yard, and the south side of the Castle Rock, including the old town Waterworks. In the first case there were two fields filling up the space, and in the latter one field. Then to the east of Turncalf-alley there was a field and gardens occupying a space probably approaching two hundred yards, which blocked the way to Leen-side. Taking the whole of the distance from London-road to the old Waterworks, barely two-fifths of the road was formed in 1750, and that was called the Leen-side, and the remainder when made was named Canal-street. At that date the ground comprised between Gray Fryer's-gate, Chesterfield-lane, and Fink Hill-street was almost completely covered with trees. There were possibly three or four houses on it in Gray Fryer's-gate and a similar number in Chesterfield-lane, but that was all. There were also a number of large trees on a piece of ground forming the angle of Gray Fryer's-gate and Rosemary-lane. Between the west side of Fink Hill-street and the Castle by far the greater portion of the ground was then (1750) un-built upon, and a large part of it appears to have been in use for gardens.

A little consideration will now be given to the chief southern outlet from the town, namely, London-road, commencing at its northern end. In 1750, this practically was the only southern outlet, at any rate, for vehicles, and without such aid as we now have by railways and canals for both passengers and heavy traffic, but as we do not appear to

have read in history of any complaints of its insufficiency in olden times there is reason for supposing that it was quite able to meet its requirements, though certainly in some parts it must have been narrow, judging proportionately from Deering's plan of the town in 1750, and also of the old Trent Bridge on which there was no room to spare when carts, &c., passed each other, and if there had not been a number of recesses over the piers on each side into which foot passengers could step, it would certainly on numerous occasions have been very dangerous for them when crossing. As with the Bridge, so no doubt with the remaining portion of the road there were in olden times no causeways, and it appears to be undoubted that the insufficiency of width would prevent their formation even if considered desirable at that time, but though to many it may possibly appear strange, it is nevertheless true that causeways are mainly if not totally, as regards Nottingham, of comparatively modern introduction. (On a future occasion I propose to say more upon this subject), though the omission of causeways would certainly make a considerable difference, and add to the facilities of vehicular traffic on the narrow roads and streets of our forefathers.

With our ancestors, the part they called London-road probably (from the map of 1750), began near to where Island-street is now. The open piece of ground into which Hollow-stone runs together with Fisher-gate, Narrow-marsh, &c., was at that time called "Bridge Foot." Many years since on first observing this, I could not understand it, my ideas of a bridge being specially associated with what we in recent days have called the Trent Bridge, but to which our ancestors for centuries gave quite a different appellation. A little study of our best histories with the then maps, &c., aided by the Borough records, &c., will however give all the explanation needed. Deering on page 166 informs us that "over the Leen between Narrow-marsh and Fisher-gate is built a long stone bridge of twenty arches, this is called the Leen or Town bridge." In its repair by the 36th of Henry 8th, it appears that the various Wapentakes or Hundreds of the County had to bear a large proportion of the cost, and from what we are there told this bridge must have been full 650 feet long. On an old map I have lately seen, the Leen is set out in that part as being divided into several small arms. A large portion of my older fellow citizens will remember that before there was a railway bridge, this road

was raised a number of feet for a considerable distance above the Meadows, or the Canal, or the Leen, in fact until within a few hundred yards of the first end of the Trent Bridge from the Town, when, on approaching the Rye Hills, the ground gradually rose to the level of the road. Commencing from Bridge Foot and until some distance after Leen-side was passed, this road appears to have been quite contracted in width as compared with a number of others, and according to the map it is probable that from Bridge-end to, or near where Island-street is now, the road was called Leen-bridge as it probably reached to there, and from the old maps, engravings, &c., which I have seen of it including a large proportion of its length to the Rye Hills, it had many arches in use for the Leen, Obainy Pools, the Seven Arches, flood purposes, &c., the reason is then better understood why Plumptre-square was in olden times called Bridge Foot, for immediately after its commencement at the town end, the bridges for various purposes also began, the first being the very long Leen Bridge.

The first reference which I find in the Borough Records to the bridge over the Trent at Nottingham is at p. 16 vol. 1, where with other land &c., Ralph, son of Fulk of Nottingham gives—(1222-1235)—to St. John's Hospital, "three roods (of land) at the bridge of Hebeve." To many readers this doubtless will be a strange name though, with several variations it was, for more than 400 years without much doubt, the accepted appellation for what in other words in modern times we style the Trent Bridge. When referring to this matter, Deering says:—"This ancient bridge bears in all writings the name of Heathbeth Bridge, though differently spelt, for the etymology of which name I am indebted to John Plumptre, Esq." Going back to the date mentioned, and even in much more recent times, the orthography of our ancestors was very indifferent and untrustworthy, for in 1547-1625 in the 4th vol. of the Borough Records, it is named Haghbeth Bridge, Heithbeth Briggs, Hethbeth Bridge, &c., and Deering mentions Heyeghbeythe, Hethweth, Heathbethe, and Heathbet (or Highbath Bridge), as names used at different times or occasions for the Trent Bridge.

In a very fine engraving, dated about 1740, which I quite recently saw of the Meadows and southern side of the town, I noticed that the old footpath I have in No. 6 letter mentioned as running south-east

from the town, and to be reached by Turncalf-alley, and the Wooden Bridge was in at least a portion, if not in all its length, raised above the grass. In reference to this Deering, at p. 164, when referring to the Trent Bridge and some one coming into the town, says, "From the foot of this bridge there goes a causeway well secured with brickwork and covered with flat stones leading to the higher part of the Meadows, and from thence across the lower parts, there are planks raised a foot or a foot and a half, and in some places two feet high from the ground, upon which in flood times people may go dry from Heathbeth Bridge to several parts of the town; all these are taken care of and repaired by the bridge masters." Deering also informs us that: "Between the two principal bridges, that is, the Trent and Leen bridge, and about the middle betwixt the Trent-lanes are two considerable pools of water not without good fish in them, which is the common passage for horses and wheel-carriages except in time of flood, in which case two bridges built over these pools give passage to horses, coaches, wagons, &c., to avoid the danger of driving or riding into one of these pools; these bridges at other times have chains across them, whence both these pools and the bridges have obtained the names of Chainy Bridges and Chainy Pools, a corruption of chained. There are farther between the Leen Bridge and these just named bridges, very high planks and rails reaching from the one to the other, over which when the waters are out, people may walk on foot dry to Chainy Bridges, and thence over the highest part of the Meadows, and the above-mentioned causeway to Trent Bridge, which is a measured mile. These planks and rails are likewise kept in repair by the bridge masters." In my younger days I have a clear recollection of wondering (with another matter or two) why we should have a small sheet of water named Chainy Pool, but history afterwards explained it, and may possibly do so for others on this occasion.

There is still one more road or footpath to be remarked upon which might truly be said to be intimately associated with the south of the town, though leading westward, as in former times (1830 and years after), it left the town at its extreme south-west angle, for it was, and may now be, properly called the low road to Lenton. In comparatively recent times it commenced near to the bottom of Finkhill-street, and passed onwards towards the west, having the Castle rock near it on the right, the

River Leen being also on the same side, and immediately against the road or pathway, for a considerable portion of the distance to Lenton. On the left, commencing against Wilford-road, was Mr. Youle's timber yard and wharf, afterwards Messrs. Woodward and Clarke's, then Mr. Simpson's wharf for general purposes, afterwards Mr. E. H. Gordon's. This extended a considerable distance with the back towards the Leen or footpath, and until the space between the Canal and the Leen was not sufficiently wide for further use after allowance for the footpath was made. The Fishpond Gardens and this wharf (both at that time belonging to the Duke of Newcastle) ended on the same line. On the north side for a considerable distance the Leen was in some form fenced in. From shortly before reaching the old waterworks it was bounded by a low stone wall as a protection, and this was continued probably for about two hundred yards, and until just past the entrance to Mr. Gordon's wharf, near which a bridge crossed the Leen in connection with the Fishpond Gardens, when the stone wall and the road for vehicles and horses may be said to have ended, and the footpath proper began without any protection from the Leen. There were a few small houses with a number of old buildings forming part of the boundary of Mr. Gordon's wharf.

It was, I believe, nearly a quarter of a mile from the beginning to the end of the wharves, and then the prospect was open on the right to The Park across the Leen, and on the left to The Meadows across the Canal. In a short time the Old Rock-holes could be seen with "The Doctor's Shop," &c., &c., which will abide in the memory of many of my older fellow-citizens, and especially if natives of the locality. A few steps further then brought us to the part of the Leen called the Cowdrinks, of which the same section of persons will, in many instances, retain vivid recollections and reminiscences pertaining to their younger days. I think I ought to say to many who may not remember the Cowdrinks that they were at the bottom of the last deep depression in The Park when crossing from Nottingham towards Lenton. After passing here on the footroad Lenton was reached in a few minutes.

Since this time the transformation of this part is complete many of the old landmarks are either out of sight or entirely obliterated. A narrow footpath is metamorphosed into a wide boulevard, on which there is an enormous amount of traffic, and under which

there is probably the largest outfall sewer belonging to the city, with houses, business premises, &c., springing up all round. Even the Leen has been diverted into some other course, but the convenience has been enormously increased.

OLD NOTTINGHAM:

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

VIII.

In my third letter I referred incidentally to the Dales, which are to the north-west of Nottingham, and to statements in the Borough Records concerning them. These, in my own opinion, and also of various old inhabitants of the locality, familiar with the Dales, do not convey a correct idea respecting them nor such as tradition has brought down to us, and old maps made us familiar with. I mentioned in my fifth letter that my only motive in remarking upon this or other points is to establish the truth whether it be in favour of the Records or of myself, and to effect this it is proper that the subject should, if possible, be set at rest whilst a number of my old fellow-citizens are alive, who in their younger days were thoroughly conversant with the Dales, when in what I might call their normal state, and as it is now almost exactly half a century since they were first interfered with for street making and building purposes, I think it will be allowed that there has been no undue hurry in broaching the matter.

In Vol. I. of the Borough Records, as mentioned in "List of Names of Streets, Fields, &c.," it appears that there is an entry of Wrendale, near Lingdale, on three occasions, but though the name of Larkdale is there casually entered, the reader is referred to Lingdale, and informed respecting "land passed in a certain place there, commonly called Larkdale or Lingdale." It is very doubtful whether the name of Wrendale will be found in any future volume of the Records, and I have no doubt that Wrendale was only another name for Larkdale (1230-1335-1363). It must also be remembered that in Vol. I., page 442, Wrendale is stated to be "near" Lingdale. In Vol. II. there does not appear to be any reference to Larkdale, though in several instances Lingdale, otherwise Lyngdale, is mentioned. In Vol. III. of the Records, according to what is entered in "The List of Names, Streets, Fields, &c.," on page 473, the Larkdale again appears to have no mention made of it, as there seems to be no page brought to notice in which it occurs, though incidentally we are informed of a case in 1460 where Thurland grants to the Trinity Gild an acre of land without Chapell Barre, near Larkdale. I have been at a little trouble in trying to find anything directly

referring to that matter, both in the second and third volumes, but at present have not succeeded. According to this there is practically no direct mention of the Larkdale in the three first volumes of the Records in the ordinary course or reference thereto in the list of names, &c., though Lingdale is often mentioned, and yet on page 473, Vol. III., the editor says that "the Lark Dale, formerly called Lingdale, is the Valley represented by Shakespeare-street and the Valley in the General Cemetery." A statement like this to many inhabitants from 64 to 82 years of age, who have been familiar with that part from their childhood upwards, is most surprising, and it is the first and only intimation they have ever received that the Valley of Shakespeare-street was included in Lark Dale, but they deny it.

The notion of such a thing is entirely opposed to tradition, old maps, or other information which had come down to us respecting the Dales, and unless full proof be first produced of the accuracy of the statement by those making it, care should be exercised before accepting it. I demur to the notion that Larkdale was ever called Lingdale or Lyngdale, because there were as a fact positively two dales, and that would (though in name only) reduce them to one, but before I further refer to this point I desire to make a few remarks respecting the roads and footpaths connected with or leading to the two Dales.

In my first letter, when referring to the upper end of the north side of Parliament-street and the lower end of what was then termed Back-lane, I stated that there was no Goldsmith-street at that time, though there was a footpath across the fields from that point, and it very closely followed the causeway on the east side of that street until near the point where the bottom gates to the cemetery are fixed, when it joined the lower end of the Bowling Alley. The first and most noted of the fields crossed by this footpath was Roper's Close, which is a name that will be well remembered by many of the older inhabitants of the city living near it, and probably bring up numerous recollections of the past, for amongst young people it was in constant use fifty years since for a run into the fields. This path appears to have been well retained in the memory of most persons who had once fully known it. I now desire to refer to another footpath across the fields in connection with the Dales. It certainly was not used by such large numbers of persons as the last-mentioned foot road, by not being so centrally

situated for the town, and therefore there may be some allowance made for its escaping the memory of various persons until some incident has been mentioned which recalled it to their mind.

Going back possibly from fifty-five years, when in Back-lane (Wollaton-street), on its northern side and about level with the top of Toll-street (where there was a winding footway from Toll House Hill, called Mark-lane, on the opposite side), a narrow foot road across the fields would be found which had a hedge on each side (east and west), and was generally but little if any more than two yards wide.

Whilst I am writing this I have before me the large map of the town and land surrounding it, which I have before mentioned as being from surveys made in 1827-28 and 1829 by one whom I believe then was, and another who certainly afterwards became the Town Surveyor—namely, Messrs. G. Staveley and H. M. Wood. In this map the paths are plainly lined and all the fields set out and shown. I could wish that the editors of the Borough Records could have seen or had thoroughly examined such an one, as it might have caused them to modify a few statements they have made. I have also the advantage of two other large maps of a little more recent date to refer to, though both are earlier than the great changes which have occurred in the town (dating 59 and 63 years since), but all agree in the main points under discussion.

Respecting the footpath from the north side of Parliament-street, it passed through six fields before reaching near the end of the present Shakespeare-street. One long one (the first) and five narrow ones. The footpath from the middle of Back-lane first passed on right and left by long fields, then two narrow ones, when the bottom end of the Lark Dale was reached to the left, which doubtless was very nearly opposite to the entrance gates or lodge to the Arboretum as now fixed or built, but this footpath continued at an angle until it reached the Bowling Alley, near where Portland-road or Raleigh-street is now formed. Fortunately there is one old and (as regards this case) valuable landmark still left respecting Lark Dale, its position, &c., and that is a house in the General Cemetery which, when looked at from Waverley-street, is at the back of the bottom chapel. It was at one time close to the bottom of Lark Dale, and the back wall of a little yard in the rear once formed a portion of the southern fence to the Dale. Many years past before all traces of the Dale were lost, and in fact, as building opera-

tions and street making went on, I took some mental notes at times respecting its position, &c., and still retain most of them in my memory.

Lark Dale when entered at its lower end ran somewhat north-west until it reached Forest-road as it was formerly, though in that part the road was much the same in direction as it is now. The pathway was but a narrow one, with hedges on each side, and probably not exceeding three yards in width in a large portion of it, and much of its length was sunk some feet below the level of the fields on either side with much loose sand. It was proportionately a small affair when compared with the other Dale, the more recent name of which is or was the Bowling Alley, though I am thoroughly convinced and consider it as practically certain that its old name was Lingdale, which nearly three centuries since was renamed, or became known, as the Bowling Alley. As a diminutive, and on the principle that a small house or cottage is a *maisonette*, so also ought the Lark Dale to be termed a *dalette* in comparison with the other Dale. The mere idea that the little Wren Dale (a small bird) or Lark Dale should be so magnified as to be preferred to its much larger and more important neighbour, and even extended to three times its proper length, by being on paper continued to Mansfield-road, has when mentioned in several instances, which I have seen amongst old fellow-citizens who had a full knowledge of the Dales, raised a smile of incredulity that such an assertion could possibly be made by any one.

The ground enclosed between the Bowling Alley hill and Lark Dale was V shaped, the wide part at the top being on the Forest-road, and it was then filled up by two good-sized fields, then there were four considerably smaller and differently shaped fields filling up the remaining and lower part of the enclosed land. There was also a piece of land, sufficient to make a good-sized field, which was unenclosed or unfenced and open to the footpaths and Bowling Alley road, and to a certain extent belonged to the Dale and road also, and if sold at any time with a full and a proper description given, it would almost undoubtedly to a present-day reader without a full knowledge of the spot, prove embarrassing and difficult to fully comprehend or unravel. Two of the maps upon which I rely were brought out directly for Corporation purposes and by their authority, and the third by two of their surveyors. And as the largest was issued (1829) a

number of years before the inclosure took place, and perhaps I might say before it was much thought of, we find most or all parts of it just as it is remembered and spoken of by many of the old townfolk, and the others (one of 1843 and another of 1848) agree with it.

In saying that Lark Dale extended to Mansfield-road, one or two most important matters were overlooked or ignored, which point most decidedly in an opposite direction. (1st) The old road, formerly running where Shakespeare-street is now, was called Cross-lane until it reached the Bowling Alley, which ought to be sufficient evidence from its difference of name that it was not considered or intended to be part of Lark Dale, but there is another, and as I consider decisive objection to such an ill-assorted union. Cross-lane was a road for vehicles, whilst Lark Dale was exclusively a foot road among fields, and by width, formation, &c., totally unsuitable for wheel traffic. This I consider as fatal to their junction, and to assertions made as regards what with but little doubt was formerly known as Ling Dale, and for a great part of three centuries renamed "The Bowling Alley," and which also was a road for vehicles, there was undoubtedly a junction near to the end of Shakespeare-street or the cemetery gates as now formed or fixed.

In Vol. I. of the Borough Records and page 432 we are informed that "gate" in the Nottingham street names means a road or way. On page 181 of Vol. I. of the Records Lingdalegate is mentioned (1362) in connection with the transference of some land to John Samon, which is said to be "athwart Lingdalegate," one rood in Wrendale, and one rood also in Lingdale. This proves undoubtedly that there were two separate dales, Wrendale or Larkdale being one, and Lingdale the other. Then Lingdalegate must not be forgotten with the land that was transferred in it, for it asserts or proves the importance, comparatively speaking, of Lingdale, and that there was a road to it, which was not a mere footpath, and that undoubtedly was Cross-lane as previously mentioned; and I consider the proof is ample that Lingdale commenced where Cross-lane or Lingdalegate ended, and then continued to the top of what we now called Waverley-street, to Forest-road.

In 1659 this part was called the Bowling Alley. (See Records, Vol. V., page 304). I cannot say how long that name had then been in use, though I believe that to be the first mention of it in the Records. Yet I consider it probable that it had been

so known for a considerable time before that date from various incidents to be gathered from time to time in the Records. I will also mention another circumstance proving that in bygone days Lingdale, otherwise the Bowling Alley, was considered of much more importance than Larkdale. In November of this year (last month) I saw an old deed relating to land which had a frontage to the Alfreton-road, and it was described as being part of the Bowling Alley Leys, but this was actually ignoring the existence of Lark Dale and passing completely over the little place, for it is between the Bowling Alley and Alfreton-road. Fifty years since a new street was made from Alfreton-road, the bottom end of which ran into the Bowling Alley, and the Commissioners of the inclosure called it Bowling Alley-road. This in its course passed across the little Lark Dale, but the mode of keeping in remembrance the old landmarks of the town does not seem to have suited some of our Nottingham worthies, for they soon altered it to Raleigh-street, which is still its name. If its former name had been retained and the unmeaning Portland-road had been called Raleigh-street or the names interchanged, I question whether there would have been any complaints whatever, and old places would have been kept in mind.

I think I have fully proved that there were two dales in the part mentioned and not one only, and that I satisfactorily show that Lingdale (with its gate), otherwise the Bowling Alley, was of much greater importance and size than Wrendale, otherwise Larkdale, and that Larkdale as a fact never reached within one-third of a mile of Mansfield-road.

OLD NOTTINGHAM:

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

IX.—Part 1.

I wish to commence this letter with further reference, directly or indirectly, to the dales mentioned in my previous one, and to the road or roads directly communicating with the chief of them, and that is the Bowling Alley, which I am thoroughly convinced was called Lingdale, and to begin with Lingdalegate, as mentioned in Vol. I., page 435, and said to be "the road to Lyngdale," and which in more modern times was called Cross-lane. In position, but that only from its often objectionable state, it is represented by the present Shakespeare-street. Seventy-three years since, on the north side at the end between Mansfield-road and Shaw's-lane (now Sherwood-street), there was a large grass field, called Calah's Close, which occupied the whole of the space, and on the Mansfield-road side it reached within a very short distance of where Bluecoat-street was afterwards formed. On the south side to Shaw's-lane there were three much smaller pieces of ground or fields. From Shaw's-lane to the far end of Cross-lane, against the Bowling Alley, there were eight fields on the north side and nine on the south side, but several of them were not much wider than a few of the streets in the town. On turning the angle out of Cross-lane at its western end into what is now Goldsmith-street, though often considered to be Waverley-street, and passing up to Peel-street or the gates to the General Cemetery, the fields on each side were fenced in but after then the north-eastern side was one great field reaching to within a short distance of Forest-road. It is true that this land in the steep part of the hill towards the top is shown to have a fence; yet as the whole of the remainder was open it would have but little effect in excluding anyone. What was taken from this field now forms a considerable portion of the present Arboretum. On the opposite or south-west side of the Bowling Alley (now Waverley-street) there was another fair-sized piece of land, unfenced and open to the public, with two footpaths running over it, one to pretty little Larkdale and the other to its much larger neighbour, Lingdale (now called the Bowling Alley), and on this side there were three fields to fill up the ground from

near the cemetery gates to the top of the Forest or Forest-road. On further examining the Borough Records, I can perceive but one direct reference to Larkdale in the whole of the five volumes, namely, in Vol. IV., on page 273, and the 25th line, on March 5th, 1605, and even then it was respecting a town councilor, Maister Jowett, who differed with others of the Council in respect to his having for his own use one acre and one rood (of land) in Larkdale which belonged to the town. I do not think that as regards the public there is any other reference to Larkdale whatever in the part entitled, "Records of the Borough of Nottingham," except this; but if I have overlooked any case I shall be glad to be informed of it with volume and page. Yet though the Larkdale appears to be mentioned in one volume only in what for distinction I will term the ordinary way, the editors have introduced its name into each volume, and in nearly all cases with what appears to be the idea of Little Larkdale absorbing the very much larger Lingdale (afterwards the Bowling Alley)—but it is rather unusual and difficult to carry out such a notion. When the Lings are mentioned we are informed, as in volumes 4 and 5, p.p. 439 and 449, that they are "A portion of the Larkdales." The plural is used in each case, although most undoubtedly there was but one Larkdale, yet there were really two dales, but differently named, though as before mentioned Larkdale as compared with the other was a mere "Dalette."

That the Lings (or Lingdale) were not a portion of Larkdale as asserted, is I think fully proved by an entry in the "Records," Vol. 1, page 435, under the head of Lingdale. We are there told that in A.D. 1629, (the volume itself only comes down to 1399) there was a release of land abutting upon the common ground on the north. It is here acknowledged that Larkdale merely abutted upon the Lings (or Lingdale), and therefore the Lings or Lingdale were just as much a portion of Larkdale as is Burton-street respecting the Guildhall or Shakespeare-street of University College, each of which streets have those buildings abutting upon them. Larkdale most certainly abutted upon Lingdale on its eastern side for its whole length, and they each went northwards sufficiently near in distance to call it the same, but southwards Lingdale or Bowling Alley was about one-third longer than Larkdale, and its road in width was in proportion about nine yards, to Larkdale three yards, besides being used for vehicles, and therefore of much more importance

than a mere footroad. Lingdale and Larkdale were joined together in imagination only. Lingdale, otherwise The Bowling Alley, finished off lower down the hill, probably by not less than one hundred yards than little Larkdale, and not far from its termination, though lower down, there was a depression in the ground into which in rainy season a considerable quantity of water ran and formed a fair-sized pool, and occasionally it was made use of by persons coming from the town for the purpose of drowning dog sand cats. Since that time, according to requirements the ground has been in various places raised and lowered for drainage, though some idea of its old level may be obtained in the place at the back of Terrace Royal. It was under these circumstances very fortunate that the soil was of a thoroughly sandy nature and therefore calculated to absorb much water.

I may incidentally mention that at this period there were nine fields abutting upon the northern side of Back-lane, which is now called Wollaton-street and sixteen on the west side of Shaw's-lane or Sherwood-street to the Forest top as it was then (1829), several of them being quite narrow and only one that was of any size, whilst along the Forest top, taking up nearly the same distance there were but eight fields and a piece of ground built upon, or say total nine fields, though these were chiefly large ones. From the top of Back-lane (Wollaton-street) going by Alfreton-road to Forest-road there were eight fields abutting upon the road. From the east end of St. Ann's-street, going by way of what is now called Huntingdon-street, &c., to the top of Mansfield-road there were in 1829 eleven fields to pass, which abutted upon the road.

IX.—Part 2.

I have now some remarks to make upon a widely different subject, which I believe will to many be of interest from its connection with two of our very noted townsmen, when looking back from 63 to 78 years. There is no doubt that to a certain extent this matter is brought to the front by the great changes which during the last few years have been effected for the new railway, the station, &c., in Nottingham, though more especially as regards a portion of it where the work has not yet been fully carried out though expected to be immediately. I am now referring to an old shop and premises in

Lower Parliament-street, which in a very short time are expected to be demolished for the purpose of widening the street. This property is situated at one corner of where Newcastle-street was situated before most of it disappeared in carrying through the very extensive alterations required in making the new Victoria Station, and the shop fronts to Parliament-street. Until about two years since it was with the other portion of the premises occupied by Mr. John Wilford as a chemist and druggist, but the requirements for the station appear to have necessitated their purchase by the joint company, and Mr. Wilford vacated them for others in Milton-street about two years since. In that old house William Howitt once resided, and in the shop he carried on for some years the business of a druggist, and issued some of his works there. He was succeeded by his younger brother, Richard Howitt, who remained for a few years, and here also several of his works were issued. I can well remember the time when the name of Howitt could be seen attached to the premises. Richard Howitt's successor was Mr. Edward Cox, an old and valued friend of mine, who had two or three places of business in Nottingham, and he in a short time was succeeded by an old apprentice of his—the late Mr. Charles Bass—whom I knew even during his apprenticeship, and more than sixty years since. In 1854, during the Crimean War, the street angle occupied by Mr. Bass was called "Alma Corner," and it was for years known to many by that name. With each of these I have had many conversations respecting their two famous predecessors, and heard various interesting reminiscences of the Howitts. Mr. Bass's successor was the late Mr. John Wilford (with whom I was also acquainted), and who had been apprenticed with him. Mr. Cox died probably ten or eleven years since, aged about 88. But Mr. Bass has, I think, been dead nearly, if not quite, twenty-five years. In this house "Festus," the production of another celebrated fellow-citizen, who is still with us, was read when in loose sheets, and therefore previous to its being either bound or published. There also William Wordsworth, a former Poet Laureate, was seen and conversed with. I have for many years had a knowledge of a number of these facts, and others I have culled from Wylie's "Old and New Nottingham."

William Howitt was born at Heanor, Derbyshire, in 1795. In 1822 it appears that he first came to

Nottingham with his wife, Mary Howitt, and from the old house mentioned in 1823 they issued their first work, "The Forest Minstrels and other Poems." William Howitt also resided on Timber-hill, and whilst in Nottingham published several others of his works "The Desolation of Eyam," "The History of Priestcraft," "The Seven Temptations," "Traditions of Ancient times," &c. He became a town councillor and afterwards an alderman of Nottingham. He appears to have left the town about 1835 for Esher, in Surrey.

Richard Howitt succeeded his brother William as a druggist and occupant of the shop and premises in "He first came to the town in 1822, and resided with his brother William, their house being a good school for the young poet, and we are informed that he there learned much and that it remained long unforgotten by his grateful heart. In this town he spent many of the best years of his manhood, and besides those of his brother's house he was on friendly terms with Thomas Bailey and Samuel Plumbe; whilst under his fostering guidance dawned the genius of Spencer Hall, then a quaint Quaker boy." He left the town at the latter end of 1839.

In reference to these old, but interesting business premises now under sentence of demolition by the town authorities, who have acquired them from the Station Joint Company, or whatever is left of them, to enable the town authorities to add sufficient width to the street, Mr. W. H. Wylie says:—"That old corner shop at the junction of Newcastle-street and Lower Parliament-street has witnessed many an interesting gathering, and there Richard Howitt, a younger brother of William, conceived and executed not a few of his noblest sonnets. There he enjoyed the communion of kindred minds who loved to linger in the presence of one of the gentlest and most beautiful spirits. In a genial epistle to the writer of these pages, Mr. Howitt himself says that there he enjoyed the privilege of reading in loose sheets before its publication "Festus," no mean gratification, and "in that corner house now occupied by Charles Bass," he adds, "I saw and conversed with William Wordsworth, our late Poet Laureate, many of whose golden sentences sank into my mind to live in it for life."

Respecting the latter part of my letter, I have been desirous that the public should be fully informed about the old premises I have mentioned, to which our attention is so strongly drawn by what

has occurred in them during last century, and hoping some one might be rejoiced by having another look before demolition at what is so rich in reminiscences of the past. Is this one of the cases provided for by the will of the late Mr. Holbrook as regards some memento being affixed at or near to places connected with our more famous and departed citizens?

OLD NOTTINGHAM :

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

X.

I propose on this occasion to refer to diverse circumstances which have occurred or to peculiarities in houses belonging to Nottingham at various dates of which some will be remembered by my older fellow-citizens when in use or unaltered from 50 to 70 years since, and one or more of which may be seen at the present time. I desire in the first instance to make reference to a house at one period in the Market-place.

The mode of building four to five hundred years since was very different to what is the case in recent times, for straw or reeds, according to the circumstances, would generally be used for thatching them, and wood with plaster chiefly formed the walls. In my time plaster floors were ordinarily put in some or all the chambers of a house, but during the last forty years I believe that they have gradually ceased to be used in new buildings, and the upper floors of houses are now almost exclusively of wood. Deering informs us that in his time (1750), fully one hundred and fifty years since: "The floors commonly were plaster, and are still much in use." On page five he tells us that "the first tiled house in Nottingham appears (to be) that of Mr. Stanton on the Long-row, late the Unicorn Inn, in whose writings it is expressed that this house was built in the year 1503, the first that was tiled and the last on the Long-row." From this and other circumstances, which may probably soon be referred to, it almost appears doubtful whether this house was not on the site at present occupied by Messrs. Skinner and Rook, grocers, at the end of Long-row and corner of Clumber-street. Respecting the date given—1503—for the first tiled house in Nottingham, I may say that Deering is most certainly in error on that point, and this includes all those who have referred to him as their authority in that particular.

At different times during the last few years, when examining the Borough Records, I have seen references to the "Tylhuse," or Tyle House, on several occasions, and some of them related to what occurred a number of years previous to 1503—namely, the first in 1435 (see vol. i., page 358), and the second in

1486 (see vol. ii., page 258). This was sufficient to cause anyone to be fully assured that the date given by Deering was incorrect, for unless tiles were then being used there would certainly be no Tyle Houses required or places in use where they were made. Fortunately this state of perplexity was shortly ended, for whilst perusing vol. i., page 349 I found an account of an action brought on July 25, 1397, by William Huntston against John Slater that whereas the said John made an agreement here at Nottingham with the said William "that the said John should not put any but good tiles upon the house of the aforesaid William the said John put bad tiles upon the said house which were not suitable and fell from the said house, whereby the timber of the aforesaid house is ruined by divers tempests of rain in default of the aforesaid John, and so he says that the said John has broken the agreement with him to the damage of the aforesaid William of 40s., wherefore he enters suit, &c." Each shilling at this date would proportionately be nearly equal to 20s. at the present time.

This, I think, most undeniably proves the inaccuracy of the date previously given as to when the first house was tiled in Nottingham. In place of 1503 it is at any rate proved that one was tiled in 1397 or a little earlier, for that is the date of the action, though, as a fact, there is nothing whatever to show that even this house was the first to be tiled in Nottingham, but the probability is great that other houses had been previously tiled. It can only be said that the first mention of a tiled house in Nottingham was in 1397, which is putting the date further back by 106 years more than had been previously supposed to be the case as regards Deering's History. Mr. T. C. Hine, in his "Nottingham, Its Castle, &c.," informs us on page eleven that the "Unicorn Inn, situated at the S.E. corner of Sheep-lane, was the first tiled roof in Nottingham." This looks like an extract from the Date Book, and, as in his case, is thoroughly inaccurate. On reference to "The Nottingham Date Book" (page 90—1494), which is nine years earlier than Deering's, we are told—The first tiled roof in Nottingham was that upon the "Unicorn Inn" on the Long-row, the south-east corner of Sheep-lane. The date here given, though before Deering's, is still about 100 years too late. I have not the least desire to criticise the three works mentioned for stating what has afterwards been proved to be incorrect,

but would rather rejoice that in more recent times our facilities for arriving at the truth have so greatly increased.

Deering refers to this house as the first that was tiled "and the last on the Long-row." If so, it appears quite impossible that it could be at a lower corner of Sheep-lane, for, though nearest to the upper end of Long-row, it was still a considerable distance from it, according to Deering, and practically in the middle, for on his map of the town (1750) he shows that where Bar-gate (now Chapel-bar) ended Long-row began, and that was almost exactly opposite Bear Ward-lane (now Mount-street). If it was the last on the Long-row I do not, from a circumstance I shall shortly mention respecting the first brick house at that end, consider that it could be at the west end, and therefore it would possibly be to the east, and, if so, it was probably the site of Messrs. Skinner and Rook's shop.

On page six Deering informs us that "The date of the oldest brick house I meet with is that of the Green Dragon, a public-house on the Long-row, 1615. The window frames of this are stone, the manner of building in King James I. and Charles I. time." When referring to the "Date Book" respecting the first brick house we are, under the same date as Deering's, further told that the Green Dragon is on the Long-row and was afterwards known as the Derby Arms. This place many of the older inhabitants will easily remember, though it lacked one essential and that was age, and it has since been entirely rebuilt. But where were all the stone windows mentioned by Deering (with their leaden lights)? We ought in this case to have something by way of proof before being satisfied as regards what the "Date Book" says. There were no leaden lights at any time on the front of the building remembered as the Derby Arms facing the Market-place. Those buildings were, I believe, the last which were absorbed in the premises of Messrs. Foster and Cooper and rebuilt by them, though another public-house—The Old Bear—formerly occupied, I believe, by someone having a similar surname to the present owner of the site—was also purchased or previously owned by Mr. Foster when his large premises were first erected. He has therefore the honourable distinction of having included two public-houses or their sites in his business premises.

Respecting "The Old Bear," the house was a very

old one, and no doubt with its two low storeys, high pitched gables, and overhanging front it would date back to a century earlier than the date given for the first brick house (1615). I am much pleased, whilst writing this, to have by me an engraving of that end of the Long-row and two or three shops at the lower end of Chapel-bar taken in 1840, where the shops of Mr. Taylor, printer, Mr. Buttery, druggist, Mr. Parker, shoemaker, with the George and Dragon Inn and the Old Bear are shown, and also the private house then occupied by Mr. George Sparrow, painter, &c. Unto my old fellow-citizens living in that locality these are familiar names which will be in their remembrance. The Old Bear had none of the essentials mentioned by Deering as belonging to the first brick house, for wood entered largely into its construction; but as regards the George and Dragon, though it has been rebuilt during comparatively recent years, it is shown in the engraving mentioned to accord in almost every particular with the description given by Deering of the first brick house, and the probabilities in that respect I consider to be completely in its favour when compared with the Derby Arms, and in addition the change of name is much less from the "Green Dragon" to "The George and Dragon" than to the Derby Arms. The window frames of the George and Dragon in 1840 are shown to be of stone exactly as mentioned by Deering, and the house was probably nearly 300 years old when pulled down. About 66 years since the father of the late Alderman Thomas Worth resided at the George and Dragon.

I now wish to introduce to the notice of many of my fellow-citizens a house which was probably built 75 to 80 years since, and is much noted, though for a very different reason. I mention it as a house because in the first instance it was certainly built for one, and in my recollection was for a considerable time occupied as such, though for many years it has been used as a lace warehouse, &c. It is on the High-pavement, and is the second building to the right when turning out of St. Mary-gate and going towards Weekday-cross. It is owned and in part occupied by Mr. W. V. Cartledge, lace manufacturer. To the practised eye of a builder even on the opposite side of the street the house, which is four storeys high, has the appearance of neatness and durability. To the unpractised eye there would not be much to attract attention. Yet as regards the brickwork of the first three storeys above the ground, when closely examined, it is undoubtedly one of the

finest examples of the bricklayer's art to be found anywhere, and possibly it may surpass all others. Every front brick in the three storeys mentioned, and also all the brick ends, have been rubbed and trued or thickened, and, if necessary, squared. The joints are practically as thin as it is possible to make them, and average, I believe, but little if any more than an eighth of an inch in thickness. The work is, I believe, in Flemish bond. Of those able to judge of the quality of brickwork many have come considerable distances in past years to examine this house front.

In bygone times I have heard it asserted that each brick facing the street of the first three storeys cost fourpence, and with the labour expended upon them that must have been necessary to rub and make them true I can easily believe it to be true. To many, no doubt, the fourth or top storey appears to be built of a different sort of bricks, though I consider this is not the case, but that they are really the same bricks but, of course, unrubbed. The rubbing undoubtedly takes away the hard face, and the action of the atmosphere upon the bricks is not then the same. Many years back I heard who had built this house, but it has now escaped my memory. From fifty to fifty-five years since it was occupied by Mr. Booth Eddison, surgeon, though at that time this was not singular, for most of the houses on High-pavement were at that period used as residences.

To some it is probable that it will be rather surprising to be told, yet it is correct to say, that within about half a century from the present date there were a couple of houses to be found in the town with thatched roofs. This to many will be interesting news. I was well aware of one of them, which at intervals I passed by. It was in Barker-gate, on the north side, and nearly two-thirds of its length down (on the left hand) when going from Stoney-street. I have the impression that it was a house with two storeys, but if there were three storeys they were certainly low ones, and I believe the houses on each side were higher than the one mentioned. I am not able to definitely fix the date when this thatched roof disappeared, yet it is probably about fifty years, though as being such an interesting relic of old Nottingham I should be glad if any reader can supply that information and will do so through the columns of this paper. In "Nottingham, Its Castle," &c., by Mr. T. C. Hine, he informs us in a note at the bottom of the eleventh

page that "The last thatched roof was found in Narrow-marsh, the property of the Rev. Jas. Hine, and taken down about 1854."

Until I saw this at a comparatively recent date I had supposed that the thatched roof in Barker-gate had been unique in Nottingham, and from his non-reference to that house, which probably disappeared about the same time as the one in Narrow-marsh, I consider that Mr. Hine's knowledge of thatched roofs in the town did not extend beyond the one he mentions. If Narrow-marsh had been a wider street, and especially if, as with Barker-gate, one end had been considerably higher than the other to allow of the roof being seen, I have little doubt that many more of us would have had some knowledge of it. If it should happen, which is certainly but little to be expected, that there is still left in "Old Nottingham" such a thing as a thatched roof, or if one was taken away during the last thirty or forty years, a knowledge of the place, date, &c., would be interesting to many.

OLD NOTTINGHAM:

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE &c.

XI.

As regards my previous letter there are a few points on which I think it advisable that I should make a little further explanation, and the commencement is in reference to the first tiled house in the town. This I think I have thoroughly proved was in 1397 or before, but respecting its situation there is something more to be said.

I have previously quoted Deering's remarks respecting it, and I also wish to mention what we are told in Throsby's *Thoroton*, vol. 2, page 43. It is as follows:—"Before the year 1503 there was no house in Nottingham but what was thatched with straw or reed, and built of wood and plaster. This year the Unicorn Inn, the last house on the Long-row, was tiled, which circumstance is expressed in the writings of that house." Deering informs us that the owner of the house was named Stanton, of which Throsby makes no mention, but in other respects what they tell us is practically the same. The *Date Book* informs us that the Unicorn Inn was at the bottom of Sheep-lane (now Market-street), at the south-east corner; both of our two best historians say that it was at the end of the Long-row, and neither make any reference to Sheep-lane, which was a considerable distance, as I have before explained, from either of the ends of Long-row, which, in their time, is shown on Deering's map of fully 150 years since, to reach, as it does in our time, from the bottom of Bargate or Chapel-bar opposite to Bearward-lane or Mount-street, to Cow-lane or Clumber-street; therefore, according to their assertions (which I prefer to believe), Sheep-lane was in no way connected with the house as practically—(on the east corner of the lane)—it would have been in the centre of the Market, and not at the end of Long-row, and unless the editor of the *Date Book* can bring full proof of his assertion that the Unicorn Inn was at the south-east corner of Sheep-lane, what he tells us appears untrustworthy and valueless. There were the two ends of the Long-row east and west—and at present I think that circumstances appear to favour the east end as having been the site of the Unicorn Inn.

I now wish to make further reference to the house on High-pavement with the extra-worked brick

front, for, without additional explanation, I fear from what has since been mentioned to me that there may be some misunderstanding. A gentleman informed me that he had heard that each front brick had, or would, cost sixpence with all the needful labour bestowed upon it, and I have not the least inclination to contradict him, for it is quite possible, judging by present-time experiences as compared with the past of eighty years since, that each brick would cost eightpence as compared with fourpence in 1820 or 1825. At that date the wages of a bricklayer's labourer in Nottingham were positively less than half of what, fortunately for them, is at present the case; the wages of the bricklayer having also been augmented in much the same proportion. Practically the whole of this increase has taken place during the last 55 years.

A bricklayer's labourer in Nottingham, who in 1846 or 1848 received from 12s. to 13s. per week, may now obtain 27s. for a week of five or six hours less time than he formerly worked for the smaller sum. Labourers now receive nearly 1s. per day more than bricklayers were paid in my remembrance in 1846. For twenty years or more previous to that date the building trade in Nottingham had been in a stagnant state, and I have the fact fully impressed upon my memory of more than once at that period hearing the remark that for some part, if not the whole, of the year (1846) the most important piece of work on hand in the town was in connection with the house of Alderman Thos. Herbert, on the Rope-walk, to which he was having another storey added. When the house mentioned on the High-pavement was built it was at a time during which wages were very low, and under those conditions an estimate of 4d. per brick cost was made; therefore, as wages have since so greatly increased there must, of course, be a somewhat proportionate addition to the cost of each front brick, when judged by the present time. In bygone years, as regards the amount of wages paid, Nottingham did not rank very high, but of late, excepting London, there are few, if any, places where more is paid.

In or about the year 1818 the present Exchange, &c., in the Market-place were erected, in place of a less commodious edifice, built in 1724, according to the Date Book. The old Exchange had about fourteen pillars on the front, of which ten were

circular, as is the case with many others in the Market-place. About 1818-1819 the Corporation arranged for the transfer for building purposes of some of the land on Derby-road (often termed "the waste"), there being an understanding with the person taking the land and who had purchased three of the stone pillars once under the old Exchange, that he would, if he considered it desirable, be allowed to bring the front of the upper portion of the premises over the causeway and rest it on the pillars in a similar way to what is done in the Market-place. The pillars were upon the ground and ready for the purpose if wanted, but the gentleman ultimately decided not to rest any portion of the front of his building upon them. During the next half-century at least two of the old pillars were used for indifferent purposes, and in 1868 I saw the same two old Exchange pillars lying in some premises on the Alfreton-road, but since then I have lost all knowledge of them. They appeared to be cut from the red Mansfield stone.

I now desire to take into consideration the state of the streets and roads in and near Nottingham in former times, and before Macadam's theories thereon prevailed. It is surprising to what a recent date, comparatively speaking, the most primitive notions of roadmaking prevailed. Deering in his history of the town frequently refers to and gives extracts from an unknown author. On page 16 he says "I cannot forbear taking notice of my anonymous author's blamable partiality for his native place with regard to its beauty and cleanliness. He is extremely angry with the author of a leonine distich (in Latin), which he fathers upon some stall-fed monk. . . . the which he translates thus—

I cannot without Lye and Shame
Commend the Town of Nottingham;
The People and the Fuel stink,
The Place as sordid as a sink.

Since they (the lines) have so highly provoked his indignation, let us see whether the injustice done the town by them be so great as he fain would make it."

"In 1641 the traveller, especially in winter, found the Trent lanes very dirty, and after he had passed the Leen Bridge, the very foot of the town, called the Bridge End (Plumtree Square), deep and miry. At his first entrance into the narrow passage, which used to lead between two high precipices (Hollow

stone) to the upper part of the town, he was from a parcel of little rockhouses (if the wind was northerly) saluted with a volley of suffocating smoke, caused by the burning of gorse and tanners' knobs. Everybody knows the fragrant and cleanliness of tanners, fellmongers, and carriers, many of which were then dispersed all over the town; the greatest thoroughfare in the town—Bridlesmith-gate—was then lined on both sides with the roughest kinds of blacksmiths; the Market-place, though spacious, yet was paved but on one side (Long-row), and on the other, called the sands, it was very miry. That place near St. Peter's Church (the Square! !), where the Monday market was afterwards projected, was not paved, and part of it was so boggy that there was a bridge of planks laid across it with a single rail, till of late years, over which people did pass not without danger in the night time. All St. Peter's Churchyard side was low and dirty (unfenced at this date), and from the rock of the Churchyard through Lister-gate to the Leen was one continued swamp, and the ground was not raised and paved till the year. . . . when Mr. William Thorp and Mr. Lilly were chamberlains. This is what Nottingham appears to have been at that period, but in after years great improvements took place, when Deering considered that all would gladly subscribe to what was said in the following lines—

Fair Nottingham, with brilliant beauty graced,
In ancient Shirwood's south-west angle placed,
Where northern hills her tender neck protect,
With dainty flocks of golden fleeces deckt;
No roaring tempests discompose her mien,
Her canopy of state's a sky serene."

It is possible to obtain much information of an interesting character by carefully noting the old engravings, &c., which some may possibly see connected with the town streets. In my article No. VII., relating to London-road and the Trent Bridge, I remarked that on a future occasion I proposed to say more respecting causeways, and I wish with other matters to do so in this letter, as forming a portion of or relating to the streets. In 1750 causeways do not appear to have been thought of, and judging by many old engravings and the silence of historians respecting them, there can be little doubt that they were practically unknown. This to us in recent times I have often looked upon as being most unfortunate and as causing, not only much trouble, but in many cases an enormous expenditure in widening

old streets, &c., which in some cases would not have been required if our ancestors had been fully acquainted with causeways and had therefore provided for them an extra width of a few yards only on each side of the street. If the total had been merely five or six yards, what an enormous difference that would in many cases have made, and what a great amount of valuable property might have probably remained intact in place of being pulled down in modern times, had those who have gone before us been well acquainted with and provided for the pleasure and advantages of causeways.

I have previously mentioned that "Chapel-bar" in the olden times was merely the name of the "gateway" into the town at that part, though the street was named Bargate. At this point I have before me a very nice o'd engraving of the Bar (open), with a view through it of some of the trees which were then in a row at the bottom of the Market-place facing Timber-hill. As giving a good idea of the condition of the roads and streets at that period (1750), this engraving is an excellent one. When outside of the Bar and facing the Market, the ground is shown to have a moderate rise on each hand, though to the left the turn of the road into Parliament-street is well indicated. The character of the road in each case into the Market-place and Parliament-street may easily be judged of from the ruts to be seen caused by wheeled traffic and also from stepping stones being placed across each roadway to keep clear of the mud; in one case they are but a few feet on the outside the Bar, and in the other a few yards after making the turn towards Parliament-street. There is nothing on the engraving having the least appearance of a causeway or curbstone to be seen, for at that date and for years afterwards they were unknown and therefore unused in Nottingham, and probably to all in other places. At the turn into Parliament-street some posts and rails are shown to the right hand near the houses, and these doubtless were fixed to keep vehicles from the wall's. I expect to continue the remarks upon this subject in my next letter. The opening in the stone work for the Bar was probably from ten to twelve feet wide, surmounted by a Gothic arch apparently about fifteen to eighteen feet high.

OLD NOTTINGHAM:

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XII.

I wish to commence this letter with further references to the state of the streets or roads of the old town, and the first part to be mentioned will be the condition of and what was in or near the Market-place about a century since. Whilst I am writing this I have by me a fine old plate of Nottingham Market-place dated at the commencement of last century. It is shown to be paved with large boulders. At this time a beginning had been made with causeways, as one may be seen on the Long-row reaching from the east side of Sheep-lane to Cow-lane or Clumber-street, but this was also paved with boulders, as may plainly be seen. On the west side of Sheep-lane there does not appear to have been any causeway made nor in the other part of the Market, and it was possible for vehicles in most cases to get close to the houses or shops. Old Thurland Hall in Pelham-street may plainly be observed, rising above the surrounding houses and showing its great size. Several names may be seen in the Market similar to what I can remember being there in my early days, such as Swan, Hazard, &c. It appears singular to us in recent days, who in good thoroughfares are fully accustomed to wide causeways, to see a vehicle stopping against some premises where the wheels appear almost to touch the walls or windows. It is when facing the Exchange that the absence of causeways is brought most prominently before the mind, as the roads to the right and left are to be seen at the same time. I have also examined another fine old engraving of the Nottingham Market-place dating rather later than the time (about 1818) when the present Exchange was built, for it is fully exhibited upon it, but I saw no mention of its date, though I believe it to have been from 1820 to 1825: on this the Market-place and streets near are all shown to have causeways.

In a number of cases, on examining Deering's History of Nottingham, various engraved plates may be found which give an excellent idea of the state of the streets, &c., &c., of the town in 1750. In my seventh letter I referred to the long Leen Bridge, and what is now known as Plumpton-square, which was formerly (and at this date) called "Bridge Foot."

In this open space for about 500 years (quoting Deering) there has been "The Hospital of the Blessed Virgin Mary near the end of the Leen Bridge, commonly called Plumptre's Hospital." At the date mentioned it consisted of a much older building which occupied its present site. It was then at the extreme southern verge of the town, which followed the line of Narrow-marsh to the west. There was at that time no Butcher-street or outlet in that direction, but all consisted of fields or other enclosed lands. On the west front of the hospital (facing Narrow-marsh) the ground appears to be uneven. Near to the south-west corner two thick wooden posts are shown as leaning against the wall and reaching up its face perhaps four feet, but standing out at the foot considerably to prevent vehicles getting too near the walls. It is altogether a quaint old building. There are no causeways to be seen anywhere, but at the northern corner and when turning into Fisher-gate, where we should now have a causeway, three posts are fixed to guard the wall: ruts caused by wheeled traffic are also shown, and to enable pedestrians to cross the street without being obliged to go through the mud a row of large stepping stones are prominently seen. As far as can be perceived from what is exhibited in the plate there had been no attempt whatever to make a good road in the manner that such work is carried out in recent times, and this condition of things prevailed as regards other places which I have or may mention when dating back from 150 to 160 years and more. In the square at the front of the hospital a portion of the ground appears to be covered with grass.

Against Collins' Hospital, and fronting to the present Park-street, posts and rails were fixed to keep vehicles from getting near the walls, and these are returned for a portion of the distance down Spaniel-row. The road way, which with other streets, &c., at that date (1750) had no causeways, is presented as being in a primitive condition, unmade and uneven. The County Hall of that period is shown as being in a most degraded condition. It was only one storey high, and judging from the engraving it was probably thatched, though a portion of it is off the roof, some of the front wall has fallen, and generally the building is in a ruinous condition, being no better than many hovels. One plate represents a row of five one-storey houses in and near the top of Barker-gate, which were thatched. We have few, if any, in Nottingham now which would rank so low in the scale as these. In this case, as with

others, there appear to have been ruts on the road (no causeways), and a bank of earth with some sort of vegetation growing on it is also seen. Two houses, with the roadway, &c., &c., in a similar condition to those just mentioned are exhibited which were at the bottom of Barker-gate. There is a good representation of the old Charity School, which was formerly (as some of us can yet remember) on High-pavement, nearly opposite to Brightmoor-hill (now Garner's-hill). Even here the street is shown to be in a rough, uneven condition, though this might also be said respecting a number of other streets, &c., such as Warser-gate, Pilcher-gate, Stoney-street, Coal Pit-lane, Fletcher-gate, Tolehouse-hill, &c., each of those places being more or less represented by engravings in Deering's History.

I think I ought not to refrain from mentioning Handley's Hospital. The present building is, I believe, in the street to the west of the Corporation electricity works in Wollaton-street, and they are two storeys high, containing, as I suppose, twelve habitations for the inmates, such having been the number when in Stoney-street. They once almost exactly occupied the site of the great range of warehouses, since burned down, on the east side of that street and to the north of the top end of Barker-gate, there being a small garden (no doubt belonging to them) between the end of the hospital and Barker-gate. These dwellings are shown (1750) as being only one storey high and forming a long row. Between forty and fifty years since (as I think) the ground which at that date had, comparatively speaking, become very valuable, and there being also a fair quantity of it no doubt realised a good sum, and this would certainly be not only an excellent thing for the charity but as I suppose by the erection of a new hospital, also release the town from a little difficulty. In his time (1750) Deering informs us that "These habitations of the twelve poor people have been for years in a very indifferent condition, and though the Corporation, moved by the late two hard winters, have caused the tiling to be somewhat repaired, yet it is to be feared they will in process of time (unless some expedient be found out) be suffered to tumble down, because the Corporation, having their turn in placing a poor person in, and not one farthing being left towards repairing the premises, do not think themselves any more bound to be at all the charge for repairs than any other single trustee, notwithstanding the founder in his will fixes the

whole charge of the repairs upon the town of Nottingham." This, of course, was not a pleasant position to occupy, though during the century 1750 to 1850, or rather later, many cases of repairs must have been attended to, so it is possible an arrangement was made amongst the trustees, though it is probable that the funds derived from the sale of the old premises and ground will for the future supply all that is necessary for repairs, &c., in addition to finding all the inmates of the hospital with at least as much money, and perhaps rather more, than formerly was the case. No causeway was formed near the hospital in the olden times, nor are any ruts shown opposite to them, but the street was not very even and the road was evidently unmade. Henry Handley died in 1650, and his body is interred in Bramcote Church, Nottinghamshire. No doubt many will still remember this quaint old hospital as it was when occupying its former position in Stoney-street.

I now wish to refer to a house and shop once situated on Timber-hill, which name, as some think, has been unnecessarily changed in recent times to South-parade; also to two shops and houses which were afterwards built on its site, and to the owners of the property. On these premises in 1786, according to the Date Book (December 12th), "a singular accident occurred, and there was a remarkable escape from death, both in and near to the premises of Mr. Wilson, bookseller, of Timber-hill (as then named). Mr. Stretton, builder, accidentally met a Mr. Wood, of Eastwood, and stood conversing with him in front of the shop. Suddenly a violent gust of wind overthrew a stack of chimneys, which in their descent brought down with them a large portion of the roof and a quantity of the brickwork of the front wall. Neither of the gentlemen had warning sufficient to run out of danger. An apparently solid mass fell upon the back and head of Mr. Stretton, but chiefly upon his shoulders, beating him to the ground, and cutting the back of his coat into shreds. He endeavoured two or three times to get up, but the bricks continually falling upon him prevented him. Mr. Wood also received serious injuries. They were taken away in sedan-chairs, and both of them recovered, though not without difficulty." In a note at the bottom of the page (158) we are informed that "Mr. Wilson's premises occupied the site of the house and shop of the late Mr. Jonathan Dunn (father of the recently deceased Mr. J. N. Dunn). Mr. Dunn . . . succeeded the

widow of Mr. Wilson, and entirely rebuilt the premises in 1823. He had a lively recollection of the accident referred to (now 115 years since), being Mr. Wilson's apprentice at the time, and himself narrowly escaping from death by an immense fall of materials at the same moment through the ceiling of the parlour in which he and Mrs. Wilson was sitting.

Between Mr. J. Dunn the elder, who died many years since at an age much past the ordinary span of human life, and his son, the late Mr. J. N. Dunn, of Raleigh-street, Nottingham, who also recently died at an advanced age, having retired from business a number of years previous, the occupation of booksellers, &c., must have been carried on for more than 80 years, and of that period probably about 50 to 55 years would be the time during which Mr. Dunn the elder was more or less directly concerned in it. I remember him well, and looking back between fifty and sixty years can call to mind several occasions when in company with various persons fully acquainted with the Market-place and going through the list of names of the longest occupiers therein, and for a number of years it was always conceded that Mr. Dunn the elder was the doyen of the shopkeepers, though a few others had been there considerably longer than the average. The shops, &c., are now purchased by Messrs. Ward, of South-parade. I am glad to possess an engraving of the old house as it was in 1740. The premises are double fronted, have two gables facing the Market, and are three low storeys in height. It is an interesting building in appearance, though, of course, very different to our modern notions of a shop. The chimney can be seen which afterwards caused the unfortunate accident. I imagine the house to have dated from the time of James I. or Charles I.

I now wish to direct attention to two other shops, once in the Market-place, for one has recently been pulled down. The first I will mention was a double-fronted shop on the Long-row, which filled up a large portion of the space where other shops and premises are now in course of erection on the east side of Spencers, Limited, provision stores. About seventy years since, and also in rather more recent times, this shop was occupied by Messrs. Cooke and Foster, drapers. I think I may very safely say that I remember the time when there was not a plate-glass shop-front in Nottingham, which, of course, was a very different state of things to what exists

at present. Messrs. Cooke and Foster were the first to use plate-glass in their shop windows, and 64 years, as near as I can guess, have since elapsed. They were speedily followed in the use of that sort of glass by Messrs. Shepperley and Pearce, watch makers, jewellers, &c., who at that time occupied a shop on the Long-row nearly opposite to Bromley House, and which is or was recently being used as an office by the town authorities in connection with the trams. In 1837 or 1838 those having plate-glass were not so ambitious respecting its size as is common in recent years. From my recollection, and being conversant with measurements, I feel satisfied that the squares were little if any more in superficial measurement than three feet by two feet, but probably rather less. I have no doubt that in spite of their small size the cost was very great, for at that date the duty had not been taken off.

For many years I had been convinced that plate-glass had first been used by Messrs. Shepperley and Pearce, but when speaking a short time back with Mr. James Shepperley, he informed me that though they were very shortly after the credit of having the first plate-glass front belonged to Messrs. Cooke and Foster. These fronts in their time were more than a nine days' wonder; they were, in fact, during some weeks one of the sights of the town, the glass being large and beautiful to what had previously been seen, and at times the gatherings of the people became so numerous as to necessitate their being "moved on."

In concluding this subject I consider that I ought to mention two other shops, one of which is on the Long-row, and in its present condition, from lack of change, is almost as noticeable as the others by the changes which were made. In position, &c., it is equal to most in that part, but on examination the windows, &c., will be found to be in the prevailing mode early in last century, having small squares, &c. The shop is occupied as a chemist's by our respected fellow-citizen and late Mayor of Nottingham, Mr. Richard FitzHugh. On Cheapside Messrs. Harrison and Son have two circular-fronted shop windows with still smaller squares, which are more ancient than Mr. FitzHugh's, and probably date back to the end of last century but one (about 1795). These will serve as samples of shop-fronts in the times of our ancestors, and may perhaps soon be things of the past.

OLD NOTTINGHAM:

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XIII.

I desire in this letter to take into consideration the names of various streets, roads, &c., more especially in the older part of the town, and to refer in various cases to the thoroughly indifferent and thoughtless manner in which changes have been made therein at different times since 1750, some of them being in quite recent years. In the past we have, I think, been as rich as most towns in the descriptive titles of many of our streets, lanes, places, or squares, &c. Yet how many of them are now actually unknown to the people generally, by the ridiculous and inconsistent mode in which the naming of them has frequently been carried out? When in other old towns or cities I have noticed that the former designations of streets, &c., often appear to have been much more carefully remembered than is the case in Nottingham, and it would be possible, with a little trouble, to give instances of this at Norwich, Bristol, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Leicester, Lincoln, and numerous other old places in England.

To many it will no doubt seem strange when told that, as a fact, for exceeding 600 years after the Norman Conquest Nottingham was more or less composed of two towns or boroughs—the French and the English—in which different laws and rules prevailed. On page eleven, Deering in his "History" says: "Here I must not omit to acquaint the reader, that as after the Conquest this town was divided into two boroughs, of separate jurisdictions, so there were also two town halls, of which that hitherto not mentioned seems to have been the best building, viz., of stone. It stood in the French borough on the spot where now the Featherstone Inn is; some ruins of the old stonework are still visible about the stables. The street leading from this house up to the Castle, often called by the people Friar-lane (so named in the top portion on his map), is in all leases termed Moot Hall Gate." The Featherstone Inn was for many years in olden times a noted hostelry, and occupied the site of the present north-west end of Wheeler-gate, on which the Moot Hall vaults have recently been rebuilt. The blood of a Norman for a long time was valued far above

that of an Englishman, for in the English borough (to a great extent the northern and eastern portion of the town) in an affray, if any blood was spilled the fine was 6s. 4d., but, if in the French borough, 18s.; and this continued to be the rate paid at least until the time of Charles I., but possibly later. There was a sheriff, a bailiff, or chamberlain, and a coroner for each borough. I may perhaps appear to have departed from my subject in writing the above, but in having two boroughs to deal with, the names of streets and places would not be lessened in interest, and to a large degree it proves that Nottingham must have been rich in old descriptive names in past years.

The second engraving in Deering's history is a representation of Chapel Bar, though, as I have before mentioned, it was a mere stone gateway surmounted by a Gothic arch, and, being a portion of the old fortifications of the town, it could, if circumstances required, be easily stopped up or strengthened, but the name of the street or road was Bar Gate, and a most suitable one too, for it was fully descriptive of what it had once been connected with, and was short (two syllables), descriptive and euphonious. Then why should it be altered? The old name certainly was by far the best, and no sufficient reason could be given for its being changed. Bar-gate is first mentioned in the "Records" in the year 1256, or 645 years since. Is that nothing? At the bottom of Bar-gate (or Chapel Bar) on its southern side was Bear Ward-lane (I am quoting Deering from his map, &c., respecting names). This is a thoroughly descriptive title, showing with what it had been associated in past ages, for it is referred to as "Berwardlane" in the "Records," vol. 1., page 279 (A.D. 1395), a number of other references being also made to it in the succeeding volumes. Of course its name even in 1395 was not then first used in connection with it, but mention is made respecting two men who had interfered with a water-course or drainage in it. This is 506 years since; but then, before and afterwards, the Bear Ward, or keeper of the bear or bears, would probably be located in the lane, and that there were bear-baitings we have full evidence from the Town Records. In vol. 1., pp. 428-429, mention is made of "Berwardlane" in London, yet it appears we could not be allowed to retain the name in Nottingham also.

I imagine that if the lane was transformed into a

street no antiquarian would have complained, for this was done with the next, or St. James-lane (now St. James's-street). In vol. 3, page 380 of the "Records," 5s. is mentioned as a reward to the King's (Henry VIII.) "Bereward," who probably had been engaged in the town bear-baiting. Again, in vol. 3, page 449, year 1500, various orders and customs are recited, and one is that "The said Mayre for the time being in likewise to give them (his bredren) knowledge of every bere baiting and bull baiting within the town to see the sport of the game after the old custom and usage." I am as much opposed to such customs as anyone, but as a matter of history desire to be aware of what has occurred, and by the retention of the old designations to know the place where various people lived or animals were kept, &c. The 5s. given to the King's "Bereward" (1541), estimated by our present value of money, would probably amount to full £3. In this case it (Bearward-lane) was most aptly named, and by it all could fully understand the purpose or use attaching to it, but what can be said about the unthinking and ridiculous change to Mount-street? What does it describe in history, or even respecting any individual, in reference to that street? I feel warranted in asserting that it is utterly destitute of all signification and inappropriate. I think we ought to pity the unenlightened beings who changed the name, whose intellect was too weak to enable them to see the blunder they were making, and now rename it Bear Ward-street.

Until the year 1713 the Market-place was divided into two parts by a wall which commenced rather lower down than the bottom of Bar-gate or Chapel Bar, and was continued until near the Exchange. The highest side (Long-row, &c.) was in the English borough, whilst the lower side (Timberhill, &c.) was in the French borough. It is respecting the latter that I desire to make some remarks. Tymberrowe is first brought to our notice in vol. 1, page 149 (February 8th, 1351), when "John Preet makes plaint of Walter de Gerther, who bought of the said John two stocks of timber for 4s. 6d., which he ought to have paid him at the feast of Easter," &c. The first mention I observe of "Tymberhill" is in vol. 2 of the "Records," page 251—1463—when there was an affray. It appears that a wide distinction was made in the early times between Tymberrowe and Tymberhill, for the first

referred to the houses only, whilst the latter was the name of that portion of the Market-place. This distinction lasted many years, but in the end the name of Tymberhill prevailed. In vol. 2, on page 358 (1435), both names occur. On page 448, vol. 1, of the "Records," a statement is made with which I entirely agree. Tymberrow and Tymber Rowe are mentioned, and the editor describing, says it was "The row of houses fronting Timber-hill, a name it bore in the early part of this century (18—) when it was superseded by the unmeaning 'South-parade.'" One or the other of these two names had been applied to that part of the Market-place for more than 500 years, and associated for centuries with the timber trade of the town, of which it was the headquarters, and yet the inconsiderate ideas of some ignorammuses are very unfortunately allowed to prevail, and another old and distinguishing name is encouraged in dying out. In this market there were often on sale, besides timber, boards, &c., various articles which were ready-made, and are incidentally mentioned in the "Records."

I will now consider the case of the thoroughfare which, in recent times, is known by the name of Friar-lane at the bottom end, and Park-street at the top end. In Deering's map of the town published in 1751, the name of the bottom end is called Moot Hall Gate, in remembrance of the Old Town Hall of the French borough, which was once at the north-west corner of Wheeler-gate. This part reached up to Spaniel-row, and the remaining part at the top is there called Friar-lane. The transposition in this case was great and thoughtless in the extreme. In conversation with a gentleman a month or two since he mentioned a case respecting the deeds of property in which he took some interest. They were probably made out about the year 1750 or soon afterwards, but at any rate before the great change in names occurred. The property was in the upper part of the street a little higher than Collin's Hospital, and, therefore, in the deeds at the time it was properly described as being in Friar-lane, but in the unwisdom of some one or more, the exceedingly interesting and descriptive name at the bottom of the street of Moot Hall Gate was discontinued and the name of the top portion transferred to the bottom portion, and the new name of Park-street given to the top portion. This case is, if possible, worse than some others, and has caused much unpleasant and thoroughly unnecessary con-

fusion in the case of numerous properties as regards the deeds and descriptions therein, &c., by interchanging the names of this thoroughfare.

There is also the case of the street now called Park-row, but which on Deering's map is named Butt Dyke. The old town wall passed close to or through this street to the top of the hill, there being a connection with the fortifications of the Castle in olden times by a postern gate and bridge near to where Postern-street now is. In that street we fortunately retain a descriptive name connected with the town many centuries since. Why was not the name of the Butts retained in some form as a memento of past ages? For in the dyke to the town wall in that part the old archers have practised with their bows and arrows for hundreds of years. In the "Records," vol. 1, p. 429, is the following: "A.D. 1351.—The buttes in the dikes outside the town walls." Mention therefore appears to have been made of them 550 years since and in many instances afterwards. About 200 years later they appear to have been occasionally called "Dyke buttes," and in vol. 3, page 470, two occasions are mentioned where such was the case, but our ancestors saw little inconsistency in such an alteration in a name. The postern is first mentioned in the "Records," vol. 1, page 123 (1335). In the various streets and places mentioned—excepting Timber-hill—it is probable that changes were made in these names before the time of those now living.

I here wish to make a few remarks respecting two other old places, lanes, or roads, which, in quite recent years, I believe, have had their titles entirely changed, and in such a way that their identity is, or may soon be, entirely lost, and with one of them as having been associated with the old town for centuries and forming a boundary for a considerable distance between it and the parish of Sneinton, such a change is much to be deprecated. I am now referring to Long Hedge-lane, which has been thoughtlessly called Gordon-road. In olden times it was entitled Long Hedge only, the word "lane" seeming to be, comparatively speaking, a modern innovation or addition. The first notice of Long Hedge, which I have observed is in vol. 4, page 134 of the "Records" (1569), where there is the following respecting it: "Item, payd to John Hodyn for keyping the Long Hedge, 2s." On page 359, same volume (1619) there is the following entry in the "Records": "Item for diking 27 akres at Long-

hedge at 8d. per aker, 18s." In vol. 4, page 439, Long Hedge is mentioned as being "The boundary between Sneinton and Nottingham now represented by Long Hedge-lane." In some other part I have noticed a reference to the Pinder or his fee in relation to Longhedge. The first mention of Longhedge is 330 years since, but how long before then it had been its name there is nothing to show. If there must be a change in its title, why could not the "lane" be turned into a road or street, and the old and well-known place be called Long Hedge road or street, and so continue to retain its historic associations, not only with the city as it now is, but also with the parish of Sneinton, which is just as much interested in it?

There is also another road which ought not to be forgotten where the name, judging by the number who have spoken respecting it has been changed in recent years, and as I have heard many persons say without proper consideration. It was not in the old town it is true, but it is now in a portion of the city. I am referring to a road which I remember more than sixty years since in Radford, its name being Outgang-lane, and which, frequently with some, was called Ackam, Ackham, or Akkam-lane. It is probable that the name (Outgang) is one of the oldest, if not the oldest, that we have for a lane or road, and takes us very likely back to the time of our Saxon and Danish ancestors. I should certainly be pleased to know and hear what defence those who altered its title could make for so thoughtless an act as to change a good and descriptive old name like that for Hartley-road? I should have thoroughly agreed, and many others also as mentioned, if the change had been from Outgang-lane to Outgang-road; in fact I consider that any persons making such a change would deserve our commendations, but what is Hartley-road to us? (That is many of the old citizens.) It neither describes nor reminds us of anything, and using the word applied by the editor of the "Records" when referring to South-parade, it is altogether "unmeaning." I have mentioned in this some instances of changed names, and in all cases, as I have frequently heard it said, for what was far less appropriate; and if it is possible to resuscitate these old and descriptive names and apply them again to their former localities, I know that those doing it may rely upon the thanks of a considerable number of their fellow-citizens.

I will conclude this article by giving some particulars respecting the change in name of what is now one of our largest thoroughfares. There is a reference to it by Throby in vol. ii., p. 136. According to Deering's old plan of the town (1750) it extended from the top of St. John's-street or the ends of Broad-street and Glasshouse-street to the top of Bar-gate or Chapel-bar; and by him it is called Back-side. Throby says (47 years later): "This passage is now called Parliament-street, and obtained its name from the following circumstances: One Rouse, an inhabitant, a man of some property, but a little deranged in his mind, offered himself as a candidate at an election to serve in Parliament some few years since in one of his mad fits. He treated his companions, the lower orders of the electors, with ale purl and sometimes rhubarb, which he strongly recommended to all as an excellent thing for the constitution. He not liking the name of the place he lived in—'The Back-side'—and always thinking of the dignity he coveted, was at the expense of placing boards at some of the conspicuous corners of the passages on which was written 'Parliament-street,' whence he was to pass to his seat in Westminster Hall. Some of these boards (1797) are still remaining; the man has sunk into the grave, but the street has effectually got a name perhaps for ages." If in other instances there was no more cause for objection as regards a change of name than in this case no one would complain, but probably commend the alteration.

OLD NOTTINGHAM.

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XIV.

I desire to still continue my remarks in reference to the trading centre of the old town, and to further consider the streets, buildings, and places abutting upon or near to the part well known as Weekday-cross, though before doing so it is proper that an explanation should be first given respecting some of its uses. I have often stood in that open space and wondered how in olden times they managed to carry on all the business and attend to numerous other matters upon that circumscribed spot with which they are accredited. For at least several centuries there can be no doubt this was the busiest part of the town, and in that respect it must have ranked even before the Market-place, which to many persons in recent days will appear singular and almost impossible. Yet there can be no doubt that for hundreds of years in the past the Great Market-place, as regards business purposes, was used on Saturday only; and therefore we find it referred to in the "Records" as the "Forum Sabbati," or Saturday market, and to Weekday-cross as the "Forum Cotidianum." (Translated literally, "the daily market" or "the weekday market" is meant.)

From the above the importance of that comparatively small section of the town as regards business matters will be perceived after further explanations. I consider that Weekday-cross in size, after the recent changes made in connection with the new railway, and judging by what can be gathered from old maps, &c., is at the present quite as large as in olden times, and I am inclined to think it is even a little larger. Great changes have occurred in connection with the streets, &c., in its immediate neighbourhood in the course of centuries, but before referring to that subject I will explain what is said by Deering on page 9 after having mentioned the Hen-cross (at the top of the Poultry as now named), he remarks: "The Weekday-cross is likewise a column standing on an octangular basis—larger than the former—the Hen Cross), with four steps placed almost in the midst of an open space between the High and the

Middle-pavement; here the Wednesday and the Friday market is kept for butter, eggs, pigeons, wildfowl, and all kinds of fruit in season; besides on Fridays here are sold sea and river fish. Near this cross stand other shambles placed north and south, where all the week, except on Saturdays, the butchers sell all kinds of fresh meat. Over and above all these markets a Monday market was (1750) lately endeavoured to be established on a piece of waste ground (!?) between the west end of St. Peter's Church-yard, Wheeler-gate, and Houndsgate, which attempt, though it did not answer the end, because the country people would not take to it, yet has proved an advantage to the town, for this place, which is in the heart of the town, was a mere sink before and dangerous to pass, especially in the night, is now made good and as well paved as any other part of Nottingham; the cross, with a roof supported by four pillars, is now walled in, and proves a very convenient receptacle for the town's fire engines, and on Saturday it is the sheep market, the folds which were formerly placed in the Great Market-place being now removed to this. They stand along the west and north sides of St. Peter's Church-yard and at the east end of Houndsgate."

"On the south side of Weekday-cross is the ancient Town Hall, standing upon part of the old (town) wall, called Mont Hall, probably because it was situated on the top of a hill which leads up to the Weekday-cross. It has given the lane going close by it (to the west), down between the Marshes, the name of Mont-lane (now Malin-hill), and the street opposite to it (late Market-street) that of Mont Hall-gate, now called Blow-bladder-street. The hall was very lately a low wooden-building (Throsby gives an interesting engraving of it), wearing the badge of antiquity; the first room, and which was anciently all the hall, is spacious; in it used to be held the assizes and sessions for the town, as has been just now mentioned. Over the seat where the judge in the circuit, and the mayor at other times used to sit, are the King's arms handsomely painted. . . . Within this hall is a handsome wainscotted chamber called the Council House (which anciently did not belong to the hall) where the Mayor and his brethren and the rest of the members of the Corporation transact the business of the town, and here the "Records" and all other writings of the town are kept under three locks

and keys, of which the Mayor for the time being has one, the youngest of the aldermen not being the mayor, the second and the senior coroner the third. . . . Under it is a prison both for debtors above and for felons underground."

From this a good idea may be gathered respecting what we call Weekday-cross, though by our ancestors, with their indifference to any rules of orthography, it had a number of variously spelled names, Wynday Market, Wykeday Merkbeyth, Wikeday Market, &c. I have seen a copper token issued in the 17th century by some one dwelling in this locality, and it is thereon said to be issued from Weke deross. The first mention of it in the "Records" is in vol. I., p. 73 (1311) in an action for assault, also on other occasions at a later date. In vol. II., p. 35 (1406) a message is mentioned "which lies in the flesh'ameles in the daily market." In vol. III., p. 382 (1541) there is an entry "to John Worthington for mendyng of the stockes at the Wekedey Crosse 2d." In vol. IV. of the "Records," p. 202 (1583), there is the following entry "Harry Wekele for a Shop in ye Wekeday Shambelles due at Candyntas, 9s." There was for some centuries a well in Weekday-cross from which water was drawn up. It must have been in constant use in so throng a part, as it is frequently mentioned in the "Records" as needing repairs. A pump was afterwards fixed, and many of my elder fellow citizens will, with myself, easily remember it. It was, if going from Middle-pavement at the south-western corner of the street when turning to the left to get to Fletcher-gate, on the causeway near to the wall, and facing the old Town Hall. In this place also was the ring for baiting bulls, and in the "Records," vol. IV., p. 216 (1587), the Mickleton jury report or "Present the Bull Ringe to want Raylinge." In the same volume, at p. 194 (1580), there is the following entry, "Payd to Lorence Worth for mendyng the Bull Ryng at Wekeday Crosse end, for mendyng and stelyng of a pyoke, 3s. 6d." In vol. IV., p. 139 (1572), is this entry, "Item gevyn to Wyle of Wymesolde at Maister Mair's Comandement for pastyme (?) in beytting of a bulle, 2s." This, in all probability, would be equivalent to 20s. in the present times. In the same volume at p. 142 (1572) we are informed that Lorence Hynde was paid 15d. "for a gabyll for beattyng of bulles." In 1573 five shillings was given unto My Lord Voose Berward, and 6s. 8d. "the

28th May unto the Erle of Shrosberry Berward."

It is probable that these men were professionally engaged when in the town, and if so that the Bull Ring in Weekday Cross would be used by them for baiting bears. Deering tells us (1750) that "the butchers in times past, whenever they had a mind to kill a bull, they were obliged first to bait him in the Market-place, for which purpose there used to be a ring fixed in the ground, and Mrs. Mayoress was to find a rope for which she has the consideration of one shilling off everyone who takes up his freedom of the town. At this time the bull-baiting is disused, and instead of it the butchers pay to the lady of the Mayor 3s. 4d., called pin money, for every bull they kill." A movement had commenced a long time before Deering's date to abolish these baitings, and being continued it was ultimately successful, and the bull-ring was ordered to be removed. In 1576 6s. 8d. was given "to the Queen's Majestyes berward," and 5s. "to the Erle of Darbye berward." In 1575 13s. 4d. was given to the Queen's berward. In 1577 5s. was given to Ward the (Nottingham) berward. In vol. IV., p. 195 (1580), is the following in the chamberlain's account of expenses: "Payd to Okeland for dressing the bulle after the dog, 3d." (An equivalent at this time (1902) for about half-a-crown.) In vol. IV., p. 201 (1583), one of the items in the chamberlain's account is as follows: "Paid in Wyne, sugar, and beare-bayting at Maister Scotte's wedding, 16s. 8d." June, 1627, p. 123, "For mending a seat at bullringe 3d.," and according to this there was an opportunity at the baitings for at least a portion of the audience to be seated. In the "Borough Records," vol. V., p. 373, April 3rd, 1691, appears the following resolution of the Council:—"It's this day ordered yat ye Railees about ye bull Ring be taken up and parte of yem sett downe before Thomas Aluey's doore." (In a note we are informed that Aluey means Alvey.) From this it appears that the bull-ring in Weekday-cross has been removed for nearly 211 years.

I now desire to make some remarks respecting the Town Hall, though it ought not to be forgotten that there were formerly, as mentioned in my previous article, two boroughs composing the town, and that the Town Hall of the French borough was at the north-west corner of Wheeler-gate, and the Town Hall of the English borough was in Weekday-cross on the southern side. I have above

mentioned that in ancient times it was called Mont Hall, and I think there is cause for believing that it ranked really before the other hall. As Deering suggests, this name may possibly have originated from the building being on a hill though, as the town was composed of two boroughs, there were two town halls, each of which required a distinguishing name, and this was called Mont Hall and the other Moot Hall. It is, I think, almost certain that several centuries have passed since the name of Mont Hall was much used, though again, for several centuries after the Norman Conquest, the definite article could not be applied to either of the halls when referring to them; nor would it then have been appropriate to call one of them the town or guild hall. As regards this hall there is certainly in history much more to connect it with the town generally than is the case so far as we are aware with the Moot Hall.

In former times, according to Deering, "The Mayor had a serjeant-at-mace and a common serjeant who is commonly called the Mayorees's serjeant. The sheriffs have also each a serjeant-at-mace. There are several inferior servants of the Corporation who wear the town livery; as the cryer or Bellman and the Master of the House of Correction, these have red liveries with blue cuffs trimmed with silver lace. The Pinder and Woodward both have green liveries with silver laced cuffs. On the 29th September, in the morning, the aldermen and all those upon the clothing, that is all who have served the office of chamberlain or sheriff, or both, assemble at the old Mayor's house who entertains them, besides tea and coffee with a cold collation (formerly with hot roasted geese). About ten of the clock they all go in their formalities to the Church of St. Mary; the Waits, with scarlet cloaks laced with silver, marching and playing before them, where they attend divine service. The ceremony (of Mayor-choosing) being ended they march in order as before to the New Hall, attended by such gentlemen and tradesmen as have been invited by the new Mayor and Sheriffs. In their way at the Weekday Cross, over against the ancient Guild Hall, the Town Clerk proclaims the Mayor and Sheriffs, and the next ensuing market day they were again proclaimed in the face of the whole market, at the Malt Cross." (Then in the Market Place.) At the present time Weekday Cross is, I believe, the name given to the whole of the space

between the lower ends of High Pavement and Fletcher Gate and the east end of Middle Pavement, though in long past times the lower end of Fletcher Gate, which was known in my recollection as Market Street, was then called Mont Hall Gate. In 1406 (page 438) Walnenlane is mentioned as connected with a messuage in the Fleschameles in the Week-day Market—and frequently afterwards referred to. This is almost undoubtedly what we now know as Byard Lane, and which was so called by Deering in 1750.

The next street to which I wish to refer is the one which we all know by the name of Fletcher Gate. In the 14th century, and no doubt before, the modern equivalent for the name of this street would be Butcher Gate or Street, for at that period it was the headquarters of those following that business. In "The Records," vol. I., p. 446 (see Glossary), Flesbewater, we are informed, was a butcher. In the same volume, on page 205 (1379) Fleschewer Gate is first mentioned and various persons reported by name as selling ale against the assize. In vol. II., page 35 (1406), of "The Records" we read of "the Flesch'amiles in the Daily Market of Nottingham," and on page 135 (1446) of "the 'the Fleschamle in the Wykday Market." On page 404, vol II. (1415) Fleschewer-gate is referred to. In vol. III., p. 259 (1486) there are various items of expenses charged for bringing "buklers" (boulders) from Bulwell for Flesshewer-gate (cost 6d. per load!) In a lease vol. III., p. 442, dated 1528, it is called Fleschergate, and on page 371 Flessher-gate. In vol. IV., p. 174, Fleschergate occurs, and the same on page 203 it is termed Fleschergatte (1553). In vol. V., p. 251 (1654) it is called Flecher Gate. I have in this case given rather more particulars than usual to explain what I consider may be termed a very peculiar change of name and to a certain extent by the force of circumstances. In this case the "Records" do not yet bring us down to a later period with that street than 1654, or about 250 years since, but even then the name had become very much the same as at present. In the different volumes of "The Records," and in a number of cases names are given of those following the calling or business of fletchers. In 1460 John Mumper, fletcher, is entered, and Henry Clerk, fletcher, in 1479. These and numerous other persons at that time also were arrowsmiths or arrowmakers, and in that form of considering the case not only is the name of the

street altered, but it is practically changed from Butcher-gate to Arrowsmith or Arrowmaker-gate, and as regards the name all its old and interesting associations are lost. I have shown that the change was gradual and took a century or two in accomplishing.

I consider that there was also another cause which might be silently yet at the same time effectually working to consummate the change of name, which more especially occurred in the 16th and 17th centuries, and that was the substitution of firearms for other weapons of warfare. It is true this was gradual, and we have evidence in the "Borough Records" that those concerned in the making of the old weapons on various occasions did what they could to revive a dying industry and cause a greater interest to be taken in it by all in authority or position. To us in modern times the word Fletcher has no signification with it, but going back four or five hundred years the case was entirely different, it was an important business or calling in which a number of persons were engaged. In 175 years, as mentioned, Fleshewergate had (from 1480 to 1654) gradually changed to Fletcher-gate. At the latter period the trade of arrowsmiths, arrowmakers, or fletchers, had nearly died out, if not quite so, and fletcher as describing a business would then lose its meaning and value and represent nothing with the public, and therefore the change from what was really once Butcher-street or gate to what also at one period would be understood as Arrowmaker's-street or gate would probably not be noticed by the people generally when it took place. There is also another point well deserving attention, and that is respecting the word fletcher of fleshewer, which has no doubt for two or more centuries ceased to be used, and the place of that old Anglo-Saxon word is since taken by "Butcher," which is the French word "Boucher" Anglicised.

OLD NOTTINGHAM:

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XV.

I desire to continue my remarks respecting the names, &c., of the old streets or roads, and in at least one case to supplement what I have previously said. This is in relation to Outgang-lane, now unfortunately changed to Hartley-road. The more this alteration in name is considered, the greater becomes the regret that such a unique and valuable connection, I might almost say, with antiquity, should have been so heedlessly severed. Almost everything points to the probability of the name of this lane or road being by far the oldest connected with the city, for at one bound it takes us back to the times of our Anglo-Saxon ancestors, and with but little doubt previous to the time of Alfred the Great. I consider we should be within the bounds of reason in stating that the word "Outgang" in England dates back nearly fourteen hundred years, or quite double the time which I have noticed respecting any other place. The present German equivalent for Outgang is "Ausgang," and the Dutch, which in many respects is similar to the German, comes still nearer, their equivalent being "Uitgang." In both cases the last syllable is the same as with ourselves. In a periodical for January 22nd, 1902, two verses are inserted, entitled "Going Home." They are to a considerable extent identical with what is at present being considered. I will therefore give the first eight lines:—

Heimgang! So the German people
Whisper when they hear the bell
Tolling from some gray old steeple
Death's familiar tale to tell.
When they hear the organ dirges
Swelling out from chapel dome,
And the singers' chanting surges
"Heimgang!" Always going home.

In our railway stations, &c., we frequently see such notices or directions as "The Way Out." In the Dutch stations it is "Uitgang," and those of Germany "Ausgang," and when giving information in respect to the entrance it is "Eingang."

I now propose to take into consideration various

roads, streets, lanes, or gates, and changes which in the course of centuries have taken place in their names, &c., commencing with what is now known to us as Wheeler-gate. It is very interesting to follow for a few centuries the various changes which have occurred in connection with this thoroughfare. An early reference to it is in the Borough Records, Vol. 1, p. 378, A.D. 1313. It has been known by several names at various dates. At that time the name was Baker-street. On February 6th it is recited, "Grant from John, son of William de Novo Loco (Newstead) of Nottingham, chaplain to Henry Darel, of Nottingham, of a tenement which he had of the feoffment of Stephen de Whotton in the Bakers-street (in Vico Pistorum), between the tenement of William Le Cupper and the bakehouse ('furnus') of the Lord King; and also a plot of land together with a vine ('Vitis') growing upon it in the same street; by the service of keeping a lamp burning in the Chapel of the Holy Cross before the altar of S. Laurence in the Church of St. Peter, Nottingham." Witnessed by the Mayor, two Bailiffs, and six others. A still earlier reference will be found on page 374, vol. I. of the "Records," 1306, May 1, where there is an account of a release of land, &c., in Baker-street, "upon which Hugh de Woloston has built." From these extracts it will be perceived that Baker-street was an early name for Wheeler-gate. I have on an occasion or two in the Borough Records seen the word "bakester" applied to a baker, and from that word to baxter the change is not great, and it seems to have occurred.

In former times the Mayor, who appears to have been assisted by some experts, periodically held an assize of bread, and, judging by the price of corn, he ordered for the time being what charge should be made for bread, and this system prevailed, I believe, less than two hundred years since. We are informed in the "Records," vol. I., p. 291, 1396, that "The assize of bread taken before the Mayor and Bailiffs (before the Appointment of Sheriffs), and in the presence of other trustworthy men. . . . by the oath of John Jolivet, William Turner, Robert Ostiler, and John de Nuttal, who, being sworn, say that the best corn was sold in the Market on Saturday last for 10d., and the middle quality of corn for 9d., and the poorer quality of corn for 8d. Therefore the bakers are told to bake according to the assize of 3s. And hereupon John Bond, baxter, is found wanting in his weight in white bread of a

farthing and over. Therefore he is here adjudged to be in 'misericordia.' He comes here and places himself upon the favour of the Mayor and places himself in misericordia (or mercy) and pays 6d." On another occasion "William Brekpot, baxter (or baker), is found wanting in his weight in a loaf of white tourt bread of a farthing. Therefore he is here adjudged to be in misericordia: he comes here and places himself upon the favour of the Mayor and places himself in misericordia. He is forgiven by the Mayor because he is poor."

In this Assize Hugh Baxter is found wanting in his weight of a white loaf of a farthing by the weight. "Therefore he is here adjudged to be in misericordia: he comes here and places himself upon the favour of the Mayor and pays 3s. 4d. for misericordia." From these extracts interesting particulars may be gathered of the quaint customs of our ancestors, though at the same time it will be perceived that those we now know as bakers were five or six hundred years since and afterwards called baxters.

At that time the thoroughfare now called Wheeler-gate was known by the name of Baxter-gate, and it appears to have been the headquarters or most frequented spot of the town bakers. Here also, as before mentioned, the King had a bakehouse. From what can be gathered in the "Records" and history I am inclined to believe that in the course of years the bakers or baxters in that street ceased to maintain their predominance, for at times afterwards it was called Qwelewrightgate and Qwelwright-gate. This in its turn gave place to Welwright-gate, Whelwryght-gate, and Wheelwright-gate. It appears to have been called Whelwright-lane by Speed, probably between 200 and 300 years since, and after that period it gradually acquired its present name of Wheeler-gate.

I now propose to consider the case of an old street which during nearly six centuries has fairly maintained or retained its old name, and that is the one which we now know by the name of Bridlesmith-gate. In the "Records" (Vol. 1. p. 429) we are told that in 1321-2 its name was Bridilsmethis-gate and Bryghtsmvt-gate. On page 176. in 1360, a case of assault is mentioned as taking place in Bridelsmyth-gate, the verdict being "Guilty to the damage of 40d." On page 203. several persons, in 1379, are reported for selling ale against the Assize and three are reported as not in the liberty (non-burgesses). These events are said to have occurred

in Brydelsmyt-gate. On page 429 we are also informed, respecting these various ways of spelling these streets, that the Latin equivalent is *Vicus Lorimeriorum*; and on page 440 there is the further information that translated literally it is "the Lorimers street." On page 131 (in a deed) mention is made of "that tenement which William de Holm holds in the street of the Lorimers, in Nottingham."

On page 281 (1395) are a variety of reports with the Street of the Lorimers in Nottingham. On page 365, vol. I. (1281), the sale of a messuage lying in Lorimers-street appears to have been registered. In a number of other cases in vol. I. mention is made of Lorimers'-street (in *Vico Lorimeriorum*).

On page 136 remarks are again made in connection respecting encroachments, &c., in the town, and in one "they say that a porch in Baxter-gate belonging to Margery Colier stands upon the common soil to the serious detriment of the neighbours there passing, and to the great prejudice of the liberty of the town aforesaid, &c. The encroachments by our ancestors upon the town land, streets, &c., were in very numerous instances both determined and barefaced. In vol. I., pp. 293-94, the "Records" inform us that "John Lorimer and John Wyrhall, Decennaries of Bridilsmyth-gate, present (or report) an affray made with blood against Adam Cooper upon Richard Sykot, Spurrier, because the aforesaid Adam struck the aforesaid Richard on his side with his axe against the peace of our Lord the King, &c., wherefore he is attached, &c. And hereupon the said Adam comes and places himself upon the favour of the Mayor and pays 12d." "John Lorimer and John Wyrhall, Decennaries of Bridilsmyth-gate, present (or report) an affray made without blood against Thomas Fox, draper (1396), because the aforesaid Thomas first drew his unsheathed axe, and afterwards went into his own house and took a club in his hand against John Hodings, against the peace of our Lord the King, &c., wherefore he is attached, &c. And hereupon the said Thomas comes and places himself upon the favour of the Mayor and pays 12d." In each of these two cases one of the Decennaries was named Lorimer, and, judging by other and similar cases at this date, the name also probably represented his trade, and in that street a spurrier would very likely be one trade.

The next thoroughfare to be considered will be

the one now known to us by the name of Goose-gate, and during the course of centuries it is interesting to note the changes which occurred here as well as in various other places.—In the "Records," vol. I., p. 451. a "walker" is described as being a fuller, and so called from the practice of fulling the cloth by walking upon it. On page 440 we are told "so Walker-gate is no doubt (from Walker—a fuller) the Vicus Fullonum (or Fullers'-street) of page 46 (year 1265, February 15).—In vol. I., 440, Walker-gate is twice introduced, namely A.D. 1310 and A.D. 1325, in respect to land abutting upon the Walker-gate and the Gerardwell. On page 376, A.D. 1309-10 (February 26), we are informed respecting a "Grant from Simon de Blythe, of Nottingham, and Annabella, his wife, to William de Mekeborough of a rent of 6d. issuing out of a curtilage in the street leading from Robert Gos' towards Gerardswell of the town of Nottingham. Witnessed by the Mayor, John Kytte, William de Cropshul and Robert le Orfevere, Bailiffs," and three others. The recital of this Grant from Simon de Blythe, and specially with the names of Witnesses attached thereto, is most interesting as regards the history of Goose-gate:—(1) In reference to Robert Gos, it is, I consider, practically certain that he resided in that thoroughfare, and from him, by various changes which have occurred during the course of about six hundred years, that street has acquired the name which it now bears. Respecting a goose, or geese, they do not appear as a fact to have had any connection whatever with the name it is now known by. No doubt, from the position he occupied as one of the Bailiffs, Robert Gos was a man who ranked high in the social scale. (2) Robert le Orfevere is also mentioned above, in the old Norman-French, meaning Robert the Goldsmith; and from what can be gathered in the "Records" there is, I consider, but little if any room for doubting that Robert Gos and Robert the Goldsmith were the same person, and this idea is in a great measure proved by an entry in the "Records," vol. I., page 386, respecting property "lying in a lane called 'Robert Lane Goldsmith.'"

On the same page in connection with another property we have a rather peculiar variation in the name of the street, for it is there called "Robert Gategos." This was A.D. 1328. As I have before mentioned, our ancestors in long past times would not be bound to observe the ordinary rules of orthography, for instances may be found where the name or names of the same person or streets, &c.,

within a line or two have some variation. Robert le Orfevere was one of the two Bailiffs of the town, according to the "Records," during the two years 1310-11 and 1311-12. On page 377, vol. I., where he is mentioned as a purchaser in connection with property in Lorimers'-street, he is described as Robert the Goldsmith ("Aurifaber"), of Nottingham. At this time (1312, July 8) he was, as mentioned, one of the Town Bailiffs, and therefore could not sign his own deed as a Witness; but this is done by the Mayor, "John le Paumer, Hugh de Stapelford, Bailiff of the same town in the English Borough," together with four others. In 1408 the way is called Goose-gate. In 1539, vol. III., p. 377, there is the following entry: "Payde for a lok to the Stekkes in Gosse Gatte Vld." In 1579 it was Gosegate. In 1641, vol. V., p. 202, it was called Gousgate, and from this a few years afterwards (1648) it was no great change to make it Goose Gate, and this was fully effected.

In my last letter when referring to a passage on the West of the Town Hall, which many years since was called Mont-lane, I entitled it Malin Hill; this is an error, its present name being Middle Hill. Respecting Malin Hill, the bottom end of it is entered from the north-west corner of Plumtree-square (at the end of London-road), and the top end is against the top of Long Stairs and near to High-pavement. This narrow footroad is, no doubt, amongst the oldest thoroughfares in Nottingham. About the year 1303 we are told that a John Malin resided in the town, and probably this hill was named after that family. The first mention in the "Records" of any occurrence connected with it was in 1396, on a complaint of the Mickletorn Jury, which was:—"That a common lane is blocked up in the Hegthpament by Randolph Berker, to wit, between the tenement of the aforesaid Randolph, and the tenement of the Vicar of the Church of the Blessed Mary, and the aforesaid lane extends towards the south upon Malinhill and towards the north upon Hegthpament, and so through him the lane does not now exist. Therefore let it be inquired, &c."

OLD NOTTINGHAM:

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE &c.

XVI.

It is possible to find other streets and places in the old town having most interesting associations with the past, or relating to which I wish to make further remarks. There are fortunately a few streets, &c., which, whilst making full allowance for changes in the mode of spelling, have retained their names for many centuries, and it is one of this class that I propose to first notice, namely, Stoney-street.

In the "Borough Records," Vol. I., p. 371 (November 16th, 1301), we are told that there was (?registered) a "Grant from Richard de Whetton to Robert de Maunfield (? Mansfield) of Nottingham and Joan his wife of a messuage in Stonistrete." Witnesses, Richard le Cupper, Mayor; Robert le Orfevere and Hugh de Wollaton, Bailiffs, &c., &c. The date here given is probably the earliest reference to Stoney-street to be found in the "Borough Records," yet it should be understood that the street may have been known by the same name a century or two before that period. On page 396 (1335, April 22) there is an entry of a "Grant from Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Upton of Nottingham to William de Amyas of a messuage and open place in Stonistrete (with other property elsewhere). Witnesses, Roger de Botchale, Mayor; Robert de Morewood and Richard de Chillewell, Bailiffs; and six others." 1361, August 13 (p. 407) "Grant from Richard Colier of Nottingham, merchant, to William, son of William de Thurgerton of Nottingham of a messuage in the Stonistrete. Witnesses, William de Crophull, Mayor; Geoffrey Plot and Ralph de Calverton, Bailiffs; and four others." It will be seen by these references that Stoney-street is an old thoroughfare, and that during a course of six hundred years there has really been little or no change in its name.

The rise of the ground at the south end of Stoney-street is by Deering called St. Mary's-hill on his map of the town, A.D. 1751. When looking round the southern and eastern sides of St. Mary's Churchyard, and noticing its height above the level of the High-pavement, &c., I have believed that in

times now long passed the roads in that part have been lowered to allow of an easier gradient to Hollow-stone. Some of my older fellow-citizens will with myself retain a recollection of old Plumtree House, which once faced into Stoney-street, and with its grounds reaching to Kaye's-walk, included the sites of the warehouses, &c., to Broadway. According to Deering's map of the town it is probable that any one at that date standing in the gateway of the old Plumtree House would be able to see through an avenue of trees and over open ground as far as Carter-gate. There was at that time a field on the opposite side of Stoney-street. In my time there were many houses in Stoney-street, which were occupied as dwellings, and there was one terrace of houses on the west side towards the middle called King's-place, with the end abutting to the road, the ground of which was probably from eight to ten feet above the level of the street. I also remember many houses being occupied as residences in St. Mary's-gate, Warser-gate, and Pilcher-gate. The warehouses in the neighbourhood of these places more than sixty years since were few in number, and much less in size than many which have since been erected, and nearly all had previously been used as houses.

On various occasions between A.D. 1500 and A.D. 1700 there were attacks of the plague—"Visitations"—in or near Nottingham, and precautions were taken in different forms to lessen the danger of such a visitant. The Town Council had the matter under consideration on many occasions. On July 29th, 1611, they decided —(see "Borough Records" Appendix, p. xxix)—that "This company (the Council), having conference about some good orders to be conceived for the visitacion, ytt is agreed that an assessment shall be laid according to the former rates, the same to begin this weke, and to be accounted for everie Coort Day in the morninge hencefurth. And a Watchman to be set at the Playnes every night. And one Alderman taking to him 3 or 4 sufficient men, to be overseers by wekely turnes." Under these circumstances the Grammar School appears to have been much interfered with, and it was, probably after an attack of plague, when the Council resolved "That the School be sett a foott agayne and to be kept pro tempore in the Chauncell of Saint Maries, wherunto Maister Aldridge—(?the headmaster)—hath assented. And Maister John Freeman hath gyven leave, that the children shall have liberty to make

their campo—(playground)—in his close att Hollowston neere to the Church." To us in recent times the notion of there being "a close at Hollowston near the church" is no doubt very strange; yet by old maps we know that it was a faithful statement, for even one hundred and thirty years after the permission mentioned there was a field reaching from Bellar-gate to Stoney-street, one side (the south) of which was bounded by Hollow-stone.

The next place to be mentioned is Great Smith's-gate, the first reference to which appears to be in "The Records," vol. 1, p. 381, on June 29th, A.D. 1317, on which date there is an entry of a "Grant from Thomas Steel, of Nottingham, and Cecily, his wife, to William, son of Simon de Lenton, of Nottingham, of a messuage in Great Smith's-gate, Nottingham. Witnesses: William de Mekeissburgh, Mayor, John Bryan and John de Driffild, bailiffs, and seven others." I think it is probable that these so-called grants were as a fact sales of property, and that the bringing of the case or cases before the Mayor, etc., was really a mode of registering the sales or transfers. On November 13th, 1325, release by Matilda, widow of Richard, the Constable of Nottingham ("Constabalarus"), to William de Blyda, of Nottingham, of her right in a messuage in Great Smith-gate (in Vico Magnorum Fabrorum). Witnesses: William le Cupper, Mayor, Ralph le Taverner and John le Cupper, bailiffs, and five others. On June 29th, 1340, there was a grant from William de Kirkeby and Alice, his wife, to William de Amyes of a plot of land in Great Smith's-gate; John le Collier was then Mayor, and John de Baeton and Richard de Halum bailiffs." This road in recent times, for the most part of a century has been known by the name of Pelham-street.

The spelling of the street's name in the three cases mentioned has no doubt been modernised by the editor in the "Records," for in various other entries changes occur. On page 203, vol. I., it is Gretsmythgate (A.D. 1379.) On page 317 it is Greitsmythgate, Greytsmythgate, and Greyamithgate (see also page 432). In the course of time the name of this street was gradually changed to Gridlesmith Gate, and it is so called by Deering on his map since. In vol. 4, page 112, when in the quaint language of the time—A.D. 1556—in a report by the Constables they say, "Forther we doy pryssent Wylliam Nyx because he doth make a comone mocke hyll in Grylsmethe Gatte." This in the "Records,"

strange to say, is a most ordinary cause for complaint, even against all classes of the community, of which many scores of instances could be mentioned. On page 170, vol. 4 (1577) it is reported by the Mickletorn Jury, and they "present Grydel-smyth Gate to be indekey for lacke of payng." On page 206 (A.D. 1583) it is called Grylesmyth Gate. In vol. 5 (the last issued of the "Records"), page 213 (July, 1643) the change is practically effected, for it is there called "Gridlesmyth Gate," and this with but little doubt was its title for nearly, if not quite, one hundred and fifty years after the last date given above. The change I have frequently thought must have proved objectionable on numerous occasions, for Gridlesmyth Gate is too much like Bridlesmyth Gate not to cause confusion, and frequent mistakes in taking one name for the other in conversation, &c. The distinction also between Greatsmith Gate and Gridlesmyth Gate is sufficiently pronounced to render the substitution of one for the other almost surprising.

Some consideration will now be given to Barker Gate. In vol. 1, page 444 of the Records we are told that a Barker is a tanner. On page 428 the Latin term of *Vicus Tannatorum* is given for Barker Gate, and reference to that old thoroughfare from what is there entered appears to be as early as A.D. 1309 and 1310. This old street has practically retained its name the whole of the time, or at least as nearly so as our ancestors could manage—for they were not particular to the niceties of orthography. On page 385, vol. 1, A.D. 1325, May 7, there is registered a "Grant from Richard de Friesby, of Nottingham, and Margery, his wife, to William de Mekisburg, of Nottingham, of a messuage in the Tanners Street (in *Vico Tannatorum*). Witnesses, William de Crophull and John le Cupper, Bailiffs, together with five others." In vol. 1, page 203, A.D. 1379, "Roger de Beeston, sole Decennary (? Constable) presents (reports) that William Shipwright sells ale against the Assize" in Barker Gate. In vol. 1, page 275, 1395, the Mickletorn jury report "that one Richard Masson, layer, who dwells in the Berker-gate, took unjustly from John Blyth, flesher, for working two days at the craft of a stonemason 12d. against the Assize of our Lord the King, &c." On page 297 and 299 we are told that Richard de Limby (1396), Decennary of Bergergate presents an affray against Randolph Taylor, without blood, because the aforesaid Randolph raised a sikketorth against John Ile, shoemaker, and against

the peace of our Lord the King, &c, wherefore he is attached, &c. And the aforesaid Walter comes and places himself upon the favour of the Mayor and pays 6d. The aforesaid Decennary of the same street also presents an affray against John lie, shoemaker, with blood, because the aforesaid John raised a club and also threw his baselard with his hands against Randolph Taylor and against the peace of our Lord the King, &c. Wherefore he is attached, &c., and hereupon the same John comes and places himself upon the favour of the Mayor and pays 12d.

In my letter No. 10 I mention an old thatched house, which I have a full recollection of seeing about fifty years since in Barker-gate. I am glad to say that my request for information has to a moderate extent been answered. An old occupant informs me that there were two thatched houses adjoining each other. I was also informed that the cellaring under one or both of the houses was extensive, and connected with a tunnel reaching a considerable distance from them. The present owner of the property also made himself known, and said that he had heard of the thatched roofs, but from his age he could not remember them. He has made considerable alterations to the property, in carrying out which one house, I understood, was pulled down. It appears that the old houses were two storeys high, and were opposite the end of Bellar-gate, or nearly so: the one left is now slated.

There are two ways into or out of Barker-gate, to one of which at least reference is made in the Records considerably more than five hundred years since. I am now referring to the thoroughfare known to us as Bellar-gate. In a similar way to Barker-gate it has to a large degree kept its name for about six hundred years, and perhaps more, for in Vol. 1 of the "Records," page 396, A.D. 1336, five cottages are mentioned as being "in the Tarners-street (Barker-gate) near the highway which leads into Belwordgate." On page 203—1379—the name is entered as Belward. In Vol. 2, page 39, A.D. 1407, in a report of the Mickletorn Jury, they say "that William Spicer and William Bradmere have blocked up the end of Belwardlane with the throwing up of earth on either side so that they prevent carts passing through the said lane." In the report further on at page 41, "They also say that Nicholas Horner has made a dunghill in Belwardlane to the nuisance of the neighbours."

The other thoroughfare leading in or out of Barker-gate, to which I wish to refer is the one

now known to us as Maiden-lane. This has largely retained its old name, yet not quite so. As a road it is, of course, not so important as Bellar-gate and many others, nor mentioned at so early a date; still it is referred to in "The Records" in 1543, and no doubt it had borne its name an indefinite time previously. Elizabeth Gellestrop in her will of 1543, vol. 3, p. 397, "bequythes one gardyn lying in Faremaden Layn of ye yerely valew of iiis unto ye seid Maior and burgesses for the tyme being, and their successours for ever more." On page 67, A.D. 1500, Fairemayden-lane is mentioned in connection with a horse-mill there. On page 470, vol. 3, we are told that—"A.D. 1460 Thomas Thurland grants to the Trinity Guild a barn (grangium) in Feyremayden Lane." From this it will be seen that the change in later times has been from Fairmaiden-lane to Maiden-lane. One hundred and fifty years since the bottom end of Barker-gate reached quite to the outside of the town as regards the houses, for beyond it all was fields until "Old Sneinton" was reached.

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XVII.

In the letter No. XII. I noticed Handley's Hospital, which was formerly in Stoney-street, but is now in the street to the west of the electric works in Talbot-street. A few days back a gentlemen, when speaking with me, expressed some doubts respecting the accuracy of the mode of spelling the name of the founder of that hospital, and thought it should be Hanley. I afterwards examined Deering's "History of Nottingham," which had been my reference, and found that in two places on page 144 the name is spelled Handley.

In Stoney-street, in the centre of the low row of habitations once forming the hospital, I have a recollection of there being a small and rather ornamental central gable in the upper part of which on marble was the carved coat of arms of the founder, and under it was a long inscription giving an account of the charity. A full copy of it is professed to be given by Deering on page 151, and it was this which I took as my authority. I will give the first few lines. He says:—"Henry Handley, Esq., whose body is interred in the church at Bramcote, in the county of Nottingham, caused this almshouse to be erected for 12 poor people," &c., &c. I then examined the will, &c., of the founder of this hospital, as recited on pages 321-330, and there in many places the name is spelled "Hanley," that is, without a "d." This appeared very singular, but as the coat of arms and the inscription which Deering once saw and copied (more than 150 years since) are still in existence and to be seen in the front of the present hospital in Hanley-street—near the Electricity Works—I determined to go and see them, after the lapse of half a century, and to my surprise (and perhaps so with others) I found that the description had been incorrectly copied by Deering and that the name of "Hanley" was plainly engraved upon the marble, so there can under these circumstances be no doubt that it is the proper mode of spelling it. I ought to have stated that under Deering's engraving of the long and low row of old habitations in Stoney-street they are entitled "Handley's Hospital." The inscription on the marble is in the quaint wording which was in vogue two or three

centuries since, though, strange to say, it is not so copied by Deering.

According to the "Data Book" he died February 25th, 1749, and his "History of Nottingham" was published after his death in 1751. On several previous occasions I have commented upon the way in which our ancestors ignored all rules of spelling or orthography, and been inclined to wonder whether the two ways of spelling the name of the founder of the hospital, "Handley and Hanley," might not possibly be from indifference, and not an unknown error, and that 160 years since they possibly had not freed themselves of the habit of spelling words in more ways than one, as previously mentioned.

I will now further consider the old Nottingham streets, commencing with the one which is known to us as Warser-gate. In "The Records," vol. 1, p. 441, A.D. 1331, there is reference to "a message in the street called the Wallsete," and in A.D. 1352, "a chief message in the Wallsete" is mentioned. This is certainly an old street, and Warser-gate is said probably to be a corruption of Wallsete-gate. In vol. 2, page 339, there is a report, and Richard Stevenson and John Woodson, constables of Walsedgate (1484) say upon their oath that John Dand, weaver, made an assault with bloodshed upon Henry Brantingham, against the peace, on Tuesday night before the feast of the Epiphany, in the first year of the reign of King Richard the Third. On page 359 various properties appear to be mentioned belonging to the town, and one of them in the curious wording of the date—A.D. 1435—is as follows: "A common lane yat goe owt of Walsed Gate into ye eet end of Candelar Lane yat Hugh Lynbe has byged (buit) on and ouer." A "lane," as sometimes mentioned here, was probably the mode at that period of describing a narrow piece of ground even for building purposes, but in this case it is called "a common lane," and as being between the two places mentioned there is good reason for concluding that it was the narrow footway called Queen-street, which will be remembered by many old residents as once joining the end of Fletcher-gate with Carlton-street (Swinegreen) before Victoria-street was formed.

In A.D. 1463-4, page 448, we are informed that the street under consideration was called Wallesed-gate, and in 1478-9 Walsetgate. The name appears to have gradually changed at long intervals into its present form. In Vol. III. of the "Records," p. 478, we are told that "In A.D. 1509 there

is an action on a bond which mentions 'Wall'sergate,' but the Court Book has 'Walsesgate.'" In A.D. 1527 it appears to have been Walsesgate. By 1573 a further change had occurred, for in Volume IV., p. 154, it is called Whoresgatt. In 1578, page 174, the name given is Walsesgate. It continued with but little change from this name for a considerable number of years, though in Vol V., page 111, there is a complaint in April, 1626, by the Mickleton Jury, of "the loer end of Walsergate for want of paving." On page 281, A.D. 1654, the Mickleton Jury complain of "Mister Doctor Huthwicke for anoying and incroching in Worsergate with porch and pales." This at present appears to be the latest reference in the "Borough Records" to this street, and the gradual change has been shown from Wallsete to Walsesgate and Walsesgate to Walsergate, &c., until it is in 1654 called Worsergate, from which no great effort was required to transform it into Warsergate, its present name.

The next old street or place to be noticed will be the one now known by the name of Carlton-street. In my younger days nearly all the elderly people called it Swine Green, and that was the generally accepted title until a number of years after the commencement of last century. The earliest date on which I have at present found a reference to Swine Green is in the "Records," Vol. II., p. 63. A.D. 1408, where the Mickleton Jury report "that Edmund Wheatley has made a wall upon the common ground on the Swynegrene." On page 185, Vol. II., 1446, in the enrolment of a grant to John Derham, mention is made of "one garden lying upon Swynegrene." In Vol III., A.D. 1511 we are informed respecting "the Cottage on ye Swyne Grene in ye hoklyng of Myles Wyffe." In Vol. IV., p. 161. 1575. the Mickleton Jury report "Thomas Bingham for annoyng the street at the Swyne Gren with timber." In Vol. IV. of the "Records," p. 395, we are informed, "1548, April 26, that there was a "Grant from Humphrey Quernby, one of the Aldermen of Nottingham, and Elizabeth his wife, daughter and heiress of Robert Mellours, to the Mayor and Burgesses of Nottingham of a tenement or burgage in the Freer-row (now called Beast Market-hill), between the land of John Browghew, alias Burnfeld, on the west and land belonging to Heggbeth (Trent) Bridges on the east, (land) of Thomas Mellours on the south and the highway on the north, in exchange for a tenement or burgage belonging to

the bridges lying in Swynnegrene." The Mellours here mentioned were probably descendants of Richard Mellers or Mellours, and Agnes, his wife, the founder of the Free Grammar School (now High School). He was a bellfounder, and Robert Mellours also, but Thomas Mellours appears to have been a merchant.

In 1624 the town was visited by King James I., and a short time before his arrival efforts were made to have all parts in order; the various Aldermen, Councillors, &c., being appointed in the different wards, &c., to see that the orders of the Council were properly carried out. In the part of the town now being remarked upon the following is the order respecting those chosen: "Maister Leonard Nixe, Maister Hynde, Maister Oxley, Maister Perrie, Maister Mastyn, Maister Derbishire, Maister Dodsley are appointed to oversee the backsides, the Gallowe Hollowes, the way nere the Pynfould, the Broad Lane (now Broad-street), the Cow Lane (Clumber-street), the Swyne Greene, and the backsyde of Thurland Howse." The backsides mentioned are the outer streets or lanes of the town. Deering, on his map dated 1751, shows several places named Back Lane or Back Side, and this was 127 years after the King's visit. "Maister Robert Parker, Maister Scott, Maister Baguley, Maister John Stanley to view the whole towne and pavements and to remove carts and lay heappes (rubbish) and other annoyances with all convenient speed. Richard Bullyvant to be Post Master for this time. And Maister Maior to have the £44 remaining in the hands of Maister Gregorie, Alderman, and to disburse owte from that as occasyion shall arise." In the first half of this year (1624) there is an interesting entry in the Bridge Master's accounts showing that there had been a severe winter. It is as follows: "To John Fletcher, Edward Battye, Richard Oker, and other for breakin the yce after the great frost to prevent the bridges from danger, 5s. 6d."

Respecting Swine Green, I have read that in his younger days Lord Byron resided in or near to it. In 1798 he, with his mother first used the family house at Newstead, but it must have been much impaired and greatly in need of renovation, for this together with her lack of money appears, in a large degree, to have influenced Mrs. Byron in leaving Newstead again within a moderate interval after their arrival from Scotland. At the same time there was the misfortune attaching to one of Lord

Byron's feet which no doubt had consideration, and it was decided to reside at least for a time in Nottingham. At that period there was a person named Lavender in the town, who professed that he could cure Lord Byron's lameness. He is said to have been the truss maker to the General Hospital, which has but little association with deformed limbs. There appears to be no doubt that the young lad was subjected to much useless torture, which he is credited with having borne bravely.

Whilst in the town he was placed with Mr. Rogers, a Nottingham schoolmaster, whose residence is said to have been at the Hen Cross (the top of the Poultry in olden times), which would probably be within a hundred and fifty yards of the house where Byron then resided. This was close to the thoroughfare now known as Carlton-street, but at that time, and for centuries previously, called Swine Green. It was in connection with this place that he made his first attempt at poetry. During Mrs. Byron's stay in Nottingham she is said to have been visited by an elderly lady of a somewhat remarkable temperament who entertained the notion that, after her course had been run upon the earth, she should be translated to the moon. It appears that on one or more occasions she referred in a thoughtless manner to the young lord's lameness which greatly provoked him, and caused him afterwards to avoid her when possible, and to give expression to his thoughts in the following lines:—

In Nottingham county there lives at Swine Green,
As cured an old lady as ever was seen,
And when she does die, which I hope will be soon,
She firmly believes she will go to the moon.

Bailey, in his annals of Nottinghamshire, vol. iv., p. 319, mentions that the old lady who so greatly offended the young Lord B. was the Hon. Mrs. Byron, and that she "died at her house, top of Pelham-street (now—1853—occupied by Mr. Sibley), on 13th June, 1822, aged 86 years." Bailey says further that "the old lady in her frequent visits to Lord Byron's mother took the liberty of finding fault with him, and this freedom put him in a towering passion, and going one day into the kitchen he told his nurse, Mary Gray, that he 'could not bear the sight of that old woman,' and broke out into the above doggerel which, much to his delight and the relief of his passion, he repeated over and over again, laughing and exulting as though he had found in himself a new treasure." I think Bailey's account of the old lady is the correct one,

and that she was Byron's great aunt. Moore, in his life of Byron, calls the street "Swan" Green, in place of Swine Green; this is very singular. In reference to Mr. Rogers, it should be mentioned that his school was in Lower Parliament-street, about midway between the northern and lower ends of Broad-street and George-street, and it was there where we are informed that Byron attended. We are also told that he resided for a time in a house at the south-west corner at the top of St. James's-street, about the outside of which, at the present time, much ivy is growing, to which the name of "Newstead House" has been given, possibly because of his once occupying it.

In olden times there were undoubtedly a large number of swine kept in the town, and numerous complaints were at intervals made of the annoyance caused by them, and instances may be found reported in the "Records," of swine cotes or pig-styes being kept in prominent streets, &c. Cases are mentioned of several in Hollowstone and others in Pepper-street, Cow-lane, St. James-lane (now street), Bearward-lane, and other places quite as noticeable. Swine Green, from its name, gives the idea, that it was a place constantly frequented by swine, and, according to the "Records," with much truth. In vol. i., p. 151, A.D., 1352. there is a report of the Council that "At this Court John del Stappull, of Oxtom, was engaged for the office of keeper of the swine for one year." This may be taken as proving that there was undoubtedly a considerable number to overlook. On various occasions there were complaints of the want of proper supervision and of damage done by the swine. In July, 1641, Robbert King is complained of and fined 12d. "for keeping his swine in the streets to the greete amoyance of his neaighbores." In vol. v., p. 136, there is a charge against "Anne Hinde, widdow, for willfully puttynge hire swyne into Saint Marie's Churche Yarde, which deserves a great punishment:" fined 6d.—equivalent to 4s.—or more in recent times

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XVIII.

In "The Records," Vol. 4, p. 190, A.D. 1579, the Mickletorn Jury in their presentment or report, say, "We desyar youe Maister Mayore and our brethren thatt Edward Whereon may keype the townes kaye (cows) hym selfe, and thatt Oklande and Locklaye maye keype the Swyne." They also say, "We desyar youe Maister Mayore that no man shall let aney Swyne go a brode in the towne or in the felde butt onley a fore they swenarde (Swyneherd) or elles to pay 4d. for every defalte." In vol. 4, p. 354, A.D. 1617, see extracts as follows from the minutes of the Town Council (October 31), "Ytt is agreed by this company thatt Maister Maior shall have 40s. payd him from the towne for thatt hee paid to Hancocke fyue yeares agone for a howse at Fishergate end; and herewith he is contented: and the towne to dispose of ytt att their pleasure. And the Swyneheard thatt nowe is to have ytt att 40s. rent soe long as hee carryeth himselfe honestly in his place as shall be fittinge, or ells to avoyd att a quarters warninge." The 4d. mentioned above would now represent about three shillings.

In 1408 Nicholas Swineherd is charged with an affray and bloodshed upon Gilbert (the) Carter of John Fletcher with a gad, made unjustly and against the peace. Therefore he is in mercy:—(fined) 6d. In "The Records," vol. 3, p. 91, A.D. 1504, that the "Surety of John Robinson, swineherd, for well executing his office this year, &c., is Richard Esott, litster, sworn" (Litster or Lytster, a dyer). In a presentment of the Mickletorn Jury, 1575, they say, "We request that their may be a swineheard." At that time the office doubtless was vacant. In 1646 all swine were ordered to be kept up for fear of infection, "on paine of 12d. apiece pinshippe" (if placed in pinfold). In Vol. 5, p. 383, A.D. 1693, it was "Ordered that such of the councell as shall thinke fitt, to informe themselves of a fitt place for gathring the swyne together instead of the place in the Swyne-Greene, and give their opinions therein the next hall." This undeniably proves that the place was properly named, and the chief spot in the town for the swine. "1678,

September 10—Memorandum—this day a horne with worsted trimmings was delivered to John Bennet (?) whom this counsell have settled in the office of Common Swyneheard during the pleasure of this counsell." The Mickletorne Jury in their presentment of 1593, May 11th, say, "We request you Maister Mayor, that theare may be sum man to pin (put in the pinfold) the swyne that runes a brod before the swineard goeth and affear." In 1605, October 2, Vol. 4, p. 277, the Jury present and request yat swyne be better lokid to for they never ly out of the streets." In 1620, p. 371, the Jury say, "We present Thomas Jorden for keepinge a swine cotte (pigsty) in the Womans Markett (the poultry) verie noysome to the markett and passengers." Fined 3s. 4d.; equal to about 30s. in recent times. From the instances mentioned it will be plainly seen that swynecotes or pigstys were not confined to the more ordinary streets of the town, but more or less to all parts.

The next place to be considered will be Cow-lane, now Clumber-street. This is a road which is frequently mentioned in the "Records," though in times long passed it may easily be perceived from it as much as most places in what an objectionable state the streets of the town were allowed to remain as compared, fortunately, with their present state. The first mention I find of it is in the "Records," Vol. I., p. 368, A.D. 1297-8. The latter figures prove that they were connected with something occurring in the first three months of the year, for with our ancestors, until several centuries after the date mentioned, their years ended on Lady Day, the 25th, or March 31st, and not on the 31st of December, as with ourselves. At the date given we are informed that there was a "Grant by Thomas le Peyntour, of Nottingham, to William de le Clay, of Nottingham, and Matilda, his wife, of a messuage lying in Koulane, between the land of Hugh le Pestour, clerk, on the north, and the land of Peter Morewode on the south. Witnesses, Dominus Michael Aurifaber, Mayor; Walter de Thornton and Hugh de Woloston, bailiffs; and thirteen others." Respecting the name given to the Mayor, it is the Latin term for "Goldsmith," and during his mayoralty it is interesting to trace the entries made respecting him in other grants, &c. In 1281, when not in office as Mayor, he is termed "Miknel the Goldsmith (Aurifaber)," which is repeated during the same year. In 1284, in the transfer to himself of rent or property, there is a

entry of Michael le Orfevere, or Orfevre, an old French word for Goldsmith. During, or close to, the period named there were two others having similar surnames attached, namely Robert and Thomas, and I have but little doubt that they were brothers, and that their proper name was Gos, for it was from Robert Gos, or le Orfevere, or le Aurifaber, or the Goldsmith, that the name of Goosegate is really derived, as previously noticed. Respecting Thomas, in one case he is named le Orfevre, and in another Aurifaber.

In 1309-10, Vol. I., "Records," p. 376, there is registered a "Grant from Anabilla de Beston and Cecily de Beston, daughters of William de Beston, of Nottingham, to Ralph Peverwicke of a plot of land in the Coulane near his tenement. Witnesses, John Kytte, Mayor; William de Cropphull and Robert le Orfevere, bailiffs; and three others." On p. 384, A.D. 1323, December 14th, there was a "Grant from Robert de Bronneby, of Nottingham, to William de Mekisburg, of Nottingham, of a certain plot of land in the Coulane. Witnesses, Robert Ingram, Mayor; William de Cropphull (clerk) and Elias Balle, bailiffs; and five others." Here ample evidence that Coulane, or Cowlane, or Clumber-street is one of the very old thoroughfares of Nottingham, and that it had really retained its name during the course of many centuries until about 1812, when a change was made. At that date the lane was very narrow at the Long-row end for a short distance, though it widened gradually until towards the north end, when a portion of it was probably approaching its present width. It has been said that the Duke of Newcastle gave a strip of land 16 feet broad on the eastern side for the purpose of increasing the space, and, taking Deering's map as a guide, I am quite willing to believe that at least such an addition would be required at the south end to increase it to the present width, but towards the opposite end I consider that little or nothing would be required to make it what it now is.

At the Long-row end the lane appears to have been much the same in width, as many of my elder fellow-citizens will remember to have been the case with the bottom of Sheep-lane before the formation of Market-street, and where it was impossible for two vehicles to pass each other. It may have been in consequence of the gift of the land mentioned that the new road was called Clumber-street.

The more aged persons belonging to the city, or many of them, will remember the old "White Lion Hotel" as it was more than sixty years since, standing back a distance from the street. A recess of a similar kind is shown by Deering on his map approaching 160 years since. At that date only about two-thirds of the Eastern side of Cow-lane, commencing at the Long-row end, was built upon. It was then possible for anyone to walk from nearly opposite the spot in Cow-lane where the top end of Maypole-yard now enters it, to go by Backside (Parliament-street) to Broad-lane (now Broad-street) and then to walk via Swine Green (now Carlton-street) without passing one house on the right hand, and even in Carlton-street there were no buildings for probably from twenty-five to thirty yards, or near to where the lower part of the George Hotel now reaches. Three small fields at that time and apparently some gardens with many large trees growing on the land, were included in the space mentioned.

In some respects Cow-lane is comparable to Bar-gate (now called Chapel-bar). The town wall, after coming down by Postern-street and Butt Dyke (Park row), crossed Bar-gate and Toll House-hill and then went by Parliament-street past the end of Cow-lane (Clumber-street) by Broad-lane, &c. Cow-lane and Bar-gate were alike, in so far as at each place there was a bar or entrance gateway through the town wall into the town; Cow-lane Bar being on the northern side and Chapel Bar on the western side. "The Bar" in each case is exclusively applicable to the gateway and not the street or roadway, and the present mode of using it is certainly improper as regards the western outlet—the old and expressive title of the "Bar-gate" being by far the best.

In the "Records," vol. I., p. 275, A.D. 1395, the Mickleton Jury report "That Isabella de Wichnor always carries and throws her ordure into the common ditch outside the Coulanbarre to the serious detriment of the town aforesaid, &c." In March and April, A.D. 1379, William de Thrumpton makes plaint (first) against Thomas de Bothale and (second) against William de Etwall of having broken their agreement that they would "help him to repair a street called the Cow-lane here in Nottingham until full making of the said street had been finished," &c. Their notion at that date and ours in recent times of a "finished" street would undoubtedly

differ exceedingly. In an enrolment of a Grant of Land, &c., to John Tannesley in vol. II., A.D. 1416, mention is made of "the King's highway that leads from Cowbarre to the Gallows of Whiston. This was once a hamlet near to the top of Mansfield-road (several centuries since) which caused the road of old to be occasionally called Whiston-gate. On p. 401, A.D. 1400, a Release is mentioned of a right of 20s., issuing from a piece of waste land in Cow-lane. &c. Waste land in such a place has a curious sound now. In a lease granted in 1476 of various properties, three cottages (!) in Cow-lane are included. This is somewhat different to our modern ideas of property in that locality. In the Chamberlain's account for 1486 there is an item on 10th April that three men from Bridgford, each with a horse and cart, were employed two days in cleansing Cow-lane, for which they received one shilling each per day for themselves, their horses, and their carts.

In the Chamberlain's expenditure for 1496 there are some very interesting particulars of "Reparacions made upon the hie wye behinde John Gotham house and the hie way with the Cowe Barre hereafter apperith," &c. Richard Symeon was paid 9d. "for making of 160 kyddes to the same wark." This is a material that does not now get included in the "formation" of roads, though it is true we have much wood paving. One item is as follows: "Paid the 20th August to William Colewayn and John Adamson for leyng of kiddes in the holowe places of the same gates (streets) by the space of a day and a half, eider of them takyng by the day to mete and hire 4d.—(total) 12d." Item, "Paid the same tyme to 3 warkmen for fylling of gravell that cam from the gallowes to Cowe lane by the space of a day iohson (each one) of them takyng a day 3d." In 1504, Vol. 3, p. 320, is also an item: "Paid un to John Crane for clensing the dyke withoute the Cowlane for 4 days 16d." This would be the town dyke. On page 383, A.D. 1541, there are three items in the Chamberlain's expenditure as follows: "For 2 stoopes (posts) for the Cowlane 6d. Item for 4 stoopes (posts) for the worke in Cowlane 12d. Item for 3 powlez (poles) to make reylez (rails) in Cowlane 6d." These no doubt were used to protect foot passengers, but also the walls of the buildings, there being without doubt no causeways at that date. On page 399, A.D. 1543-4, the Constable's Report or "Present John Smyth, corden (? Cordwainer—shoemaker) for stopping the Kyng's hie way with

muk and mulle at Cow lane end." This appears to be one of the commonest modes of breaking the law, and applicable to all classes of people.

On p. 377, A.D. 1539, there is a singular and most noticeable entry in the Chamberlain's account for that year in the peculiar language of the time; it is as follows:—"Item payd to Roys (Ross) for fvyng of Cavlayn whan the moanes (monks) of Lenton (Lenton) sofared dayet (suffered death) 2d." This is not much to pay, though at that period it represented the equivalent for several hours' work of a labouring man. A few years previously Parliament had forbidden all payments or appeals to the Pope, and in his place the King (Henry VIII.) was made supreme head of the Church and gave many orders, but these some of the ecclesiastics refused to carry out, and the King was not the man to allow anyone to interfere with what he had firmly decided should be done, and therefore, as was the case at numerous other places in the country, some of the monks at Lenton Priory were executed. Mr. J. T. Godfrey's History of the Parish and Priory of Lenton may be recommended as giving an excellent account of all connected with the place, and will be read with much interest. Nicholas Heth, or Heyth, appears to have been the last prior, and there is a tradition that he was hung above the gateway to the Priory about the date last mentioned.

OLD NOTTINGHAM;

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XIX.

The introduction of electric tramways into the city has necessitated some changes of route, and various additions to the width of our streets. A new thoroughfare has been made from the lower end of Parliament-street at an angle across the site of the old house of correction to St. Ann's Well-road, from the bottom of which by the side or end of the cholera burying-ground, or Foxe's Close, &c., where Bath-street runs to Sneinton Market, it is said will also ultimately be enlarged to a first-class roadway in width (60ft. or more), through which trams may easily run to that side of the town. The finishing touches are being given to the alterations in Milton-street necessitated by the addition of about seven yards to its width, which has added materially to its appearance and usefulness and greatly to the safety of the trams and passengers in allowing of a much larger curve when turning out of Parliament-street into Milton-street.

At the present time, and also in connection with the electric trams, great changes are being made at the south-west or upper end of Parliament-street, near to or against Derby-road, where a considerable area with many buildings upon it is in course of being cleared at its north-east angle. The same as with Milton-street, this will be the second widening at that end of Parliament-street which will have been carried out in my time. As mentioned in my third letter, Milton-street (previously called Boot-lane) was widened in 1829 for the first time, and the end of Parliament-street in 1852 or early in 1853. Previous to that date the entrance to the upper end of the street was exceedingly narrow, vehicles not being able to pass each other; in fact if the causeways on each side had not been narrowed there would have been barely sufficient width for one cart to pass. In my early recollection, and until about 1852, the Dolphin Inn occupied the ground recently forming a portion of the site of St. George's Hall. The Dolphin, which was a somewhat old-fashioned inn, stood back several yards from the line of the street, and on the enlarged causeway in the front was one of the old town wells, from which in former ages the water would be drawn up in a bucket, but

for a considerable part of two centuries, judging by what occurred at other places in the town, there would be a pump. Whilst engaged with this I have spoken to an old and respected fellow-citizen about this pump, and found that he not only remembered it quite as well as myself (being several years older), but that the work of making and fixing the wood-work for this and a number of other pumps about the town had actually been carried out by himself between fifty and sixty years since. No doubt for good and sufficient reasons this pump had been removed and the well filled up a few years before the Dolphin was pulled down, and I have a vivid recollection when the excavations were made for the foundations and sub-storey of St. George's Hall of looking for and seeing the spot which the well formerly occupied, as the hall was advanced on the front to the level of the street.

Whilst these changes were in progress the town authorities took advantage of the occasion to practically double the width of the street at the end. This, of course, was a very great improvement, and it was generally looked upon at the time as having been fairly considered and carried out, for there was proportionately to its size but little traffic in the street, though it was then, even as in some degree it has been of late, a handy place on market and fair days for carrier's carts and other conveyances to find a resting-place for a few hours. There may probably be some interference with this arrangement when electric trams run through this street regularly. The doubling of the width of the street end was proportionately great, and has acted reasonably well since, or for most part of the time, but the present change will be enormous, and it has that appearance to those who for three score years or more had become accustomed to the former state of affairs. As an old inhabitant of the locality, there is, perhaps, a point I may suggest for consideration which some may not have thought of. In past years there have been many runaway horses going down the hill, and in nearly all cases the course taken was down Chapel-bar. In a number of these it was on a market day, and mostly Saturday, which was very undesirable and much more liable to cause damage; but with the long rounding off of the north-east corner of Parliament-street it may perhaps allow of an alternative course for runaways, and, possibly, less liability of damage. I have a recollection of a good-sized pony running away down Derby-road from forty to fifty years since, and that it jumped through a narrow window in the liquor shop

now occupied by Mr. Hickling and facing up Derby-road. It was said to have gone completely over the counter and of the back of someone who most fortunately happened to be bending down between the counter and the wall, and I believe, though most incredible, that but little further damage was done, yet if the street had then been as wide as it is expected to be and as well rounded off at the end, the pony perhaps might have succeeded in turning down it.

The "Date Book" tells us that St. George's Hall was opened on the 16th May, 1854, "by a concert, in which Mr. and Madam Weiss, Mr. Lockey (recently dead), Madame Arabella Goddard, and other eminent artistes took part. The proceeds were devoted to the fund in aid of the families of soldiers serving in the Russian war." This was declared on the 28th March previous. These circumstances are thoroughly in my recollection, and also that during the erection of the hall on the 26th January, 1854 (winter) there was a heavy thunderstorm with hail and rain in the day-time, when a piece of wood was blown from the top which killed a girl as she was passing. There was also the little beerhouse called the Hut. It was one of the oldest houses in that part of the town, and when built the ground generally in the near neighbourhood outside of the Bar and town wall was open and called the waste. Therefore as such it would belong to the Lord of the Manor, and fortunately as representing the town and Corporation this would, I expect, be the Mayor for the time being. It was in this way, I believe, that the Corporation acquired so great a portion of the land on Derby-road and the southern side and upper end of Wollaton-street. Seventy years since a Mr. Parr lived in the little house since called "The Hut." He was in comfortable circumstances and one of the very few in the town who at that time removed furniture, &c., &c. He did not live long afterwards, nor his wife. She was frequently inebriated, and in one of her drunken bouts, when alone, fell upon the fire and to some extent her body was consumed. The house was afterwards taken by a Mr. Henson, who commenced business there as a barber, and for a number of years he appeared to carry on a prosperous trade, but possibly he did too well, and becoming unsteady, his customers left him to a large degree, and he made the place into a beerhouse, which it remained until recently.

When outside of Parliament-street at the Derby-road end and passing westwards towards Toll-street, there is a narrow way called Pointon or Poynton-

street. I can remember at least half a century since wondering how it acquired its name, but I believe, as in a number of other cases, the Borough Records will aid us in coming to a satisfactory conclusion in this also. Many of the streets, lanes &c., have in the past derived their names from old families in the town, and one of them is Pointon or Poynton-street, for each form was used, though I consider the latter mode of spelling it to be preferable, and from what may be gathered in the Records I believe them to have been owners of property, but judging of them from various circumstances which caused several of the family at different dates to have their names brought before the public I have but little admiration for them. The first mention is in 1575 by the Mickleton Jury, who say:—"We present Randall Pointon for laying manure at his yard end on the backside 6d." (fine). In 1619 the constables "present Wedo Poynton for a skould," and she was "ducked." In 1626, June 19, John Poynton, who appears to have been elected upon the Town Council but did not attend, was summoned to attend, but again refused or failed, and at the latter part of a resolution the Council say—"Ytt is therefore ordered that the said John Poynton shall pay to the use of the Corporation 6s. 8d. (this would probably represent £2 10s. to £3 at the present time), and then hereafter to be dismissed from the said place and some other honest Commoner to be elected in his place." In a note we are told that "Nicholas Collton was elected and sworn Counsellor in his place, June 21, 1626." In July, 1643, Randle Poynton is mentioned as living on the Long-row, and paying as assessment of 10s. in connection with the Civil War. In 1688, October, there is a report against "Widdow Poynton for a dunghill one (on) the backside," and for this she was fined 6d. It is a name I have seldom heard of elsewhere, but no doubt the street derived its title from this family.

The far end of Poynton-street, where it reaches what was called Back-lane in my younger days (but now Wollaton-street), was at that time named Mill-street, though I have much fear that it has been changed, for the name was a reminder of what is said to have once been situated in that street, and that is the first spinning mill in Nottingham. I shall be very glad if my fears prove to be groundless, though I have the notion that when passing a year or so since I saw a fresh name affixed, and if so the knowledge

of such an interesting reminiscence of the past will generally be lost. Of course, it must be understood that such mills of a century and more since were not comparable to the present ones.

I now wish to bring under notice a subject not only applicable to Nottingham, but also to the country generally. Several centuries since there were but few opportunities of finding a supply of saltpetre compared with what we at present possess, and by way of enabling it to be obtained a stringent law was passed and powers given to certain individuals. See *The Records*, vol. 4, p. 218, A.D. 1588. In a note we are told that saltpetre, before the importation of Indian nitre, was made from earth saturated with animal matter. The saltpetre men had patents empowering them to break open all premises and to dig up the floors of all stables, slaughter-houses, &c., in search of earth yielding saltpetre. This power they frequently abused. See R. E. Chesters Waters, *Parish Registers in England*, 1883, p. 65. That the conduct of these saltpetre men was not above reproach is proved by an entry on the same page from which the extract is given, where one of them named John Prestwyge is fined 5s. (equal to about 50s. now) "for walking in the striettes at unlawful times and misvinge the Queine's subiecttes." It was undoubtedly very undesirable to have any power vested in men of this class. On p. 226, A.D. 1589, we find the following in the Chamberlain's account—"Given to two salt peter men for easinge the towne of carriage to goe to Mannsfield 2s." From this it would appear that the towns, &c., had to bear some of the expenses of their carriage if not all. In the same year 2s. is given to John Vnet, a Queen's messenger, for bringing a proclamation respecting the "salt peter men." The Town Council in many instances appear to have enforced their decisions with a high hand, but prudence appears to have caused them to be much more considerate with saltpetre men. Respecting strangers about three centuries back, the cost of being made a burgess was £10—yet in 1638, and, as it appears, almost like a bribe, they agreed that "William Burrowas, the saltepeeter man, shall be made burgeies without payinge anie thinge to the towne savinge 6s. 8d. and the other small fees usually paid," &c. For this Burrowas agreed with them both for himself and others that shall succeed him for four years next ensuing to free the town and townsmen from all charges and expenses touching the salte-peeter works in leading liquors or any other materials whatsoever,

and the towne to geve him 40s. at Michaelmas (Michaelmas next). To this William ~~Burrows~~ agreed, and was sworne burgess accordingly before the company.

In the ordinary preparation of corn for the market it must undergo the process of winnowing, and the Borough Records may probably assist us in deciding how that word was acquired or became part of the English language. In vol. 4, p. 190, A.D. 1579, the Mickleton Jury presented or recommended "thatt no man shall wyndo aney corne in the strettes, for hey that is taken so offending shall pay 3s. 4d." This will give us a notion of what was occurring in the town between three and four hundred years since. In a note we are informed that "This presentment refers to the anicient custom of winnowing corn, which consisted of letting the corn fall from an upper door or window to the ground and trusting to the wind to winnow the chaff." At page 264, A.D. 1603, the Mickletowne Jury present or report "Maister Sprentall for windowing in the lanne going from the Townes Hall to the March and leving it very fowl"; 6d. fine, equal to four or five shillings in the present day. In 1605 the Constables say—"We do present Robert Sherwin for windowing and annoying the strett with the chaff, 2s." (fine). This would be nearly equal to a sovereign in the present day. There is, I believe, but little doubt that this Robert Sherwin was a member of the family from whom the Sherwins, late of Bramcote and Harlaxton, are descended. Robert Sherwin was one of the town Chamberlains in 1600-1; in 1602-3 one of the Sheriffs; in 1615 he was elected one of the Coroners; and in 1623-24 he was chosen as Mayor. In 1625-26 he became an Alderman. He was Mayor on two other occasions—namely, in 1630-31 and 1637-38, in which year a John Sherwin is mentioned as having a seat in the Council. He might possibly have been a son of Robert Sherwin

OLD NOTTINGHAM:

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XX.

Sir,—In this article I propose to give some attention to a street which, though not a throng thoroughfare, is frequently mentioned in the records of the past, and whose modern name is Houndsgate; this will include some reference to Spaniel-row, together with what is now called St. Nicholas'-street, and also to St. Peter's-square, St. Peter's-gate, &c., &c., though to a large extent this will be in relation to the old system of drainage.

The first or earliest reference to this street which I find in the "Records" is in Vol. I., p. 385, A.D. 1325, when a grant is registered from Agnes, relict of John le Piper, of Nottingham, to Robert, son of William Casteleyn, of Nottingham, of a messuage in Hundegate, rendering therefor tenpence annually to the Mass of the Blessed Mary in the Church of Saint Nicholas. Witnesses: William le Cupper, Mayor; Ralph le Taverner and John le Cupper, bailiffs; and five others. There is little doubt that this old street to a large degree has held its name with but small proportionate change for six hundred years, and probably longer. In the past its title has taken many forms, such as Hungate, Hundgate, Hundegate, Hunddegate, Hondgate, Hon Gate, Hongat, and by 1659 it had become so far modernised as to be called Howndgate. Yet in 1687 the authorities, in a report of the Mickletorne Jury, so far reverted from their former mode of spelling the name as to once more entitle it Hungate. This is probably as late an instance as can be found of it in the fifth and last volume of the "Borough Records" which has been issued. In all cases, as I believe in the year 1700 and before, though probably also later, the name of the street appears to have been in the singular number, though in after years it was changed to the plural. The force of circumstances appears to have caused this change, and little or nothing to have been done by the town to forward or retard it.

The upper end of the street is, as many will know, near to the Castle entrance, and tradition is reported to have said that the King's hounds were kept in it for many years, ready for use in Sherwood Forest, and that some of his dogs of another

most were kept in Spaniel-row. There is no doubt that this also is an old name. In Vol. II., p. 447, of the "Records" reference is made to it in A.D. 1463 as "Spangye'l Strete." One hundred and sixty years since the street connecting Hounds Gate and Castle Gate was called Jew-lane, and this is what Deering calls it on his map, though for many years since that time it has been known as St. Nicholas-street. In Vol. II., p. 441, mention is made of Jew-lane as early as A.D. 1411, Julane in 1414, and Jewelane in 1443. It is very probable that some of that nationality had resided in or near to it.

The notions of our ancestors three or four hundred years since respecting the making and repairing of roads were of the most primitive character. I think it might with our modern ideas of road-making be said of them that they really never did make a road. There does not appear to have ever been any material used which was necessary to form a real foundation for a road. It is true that they put gorse or other kiddy in the hollows on many occasions to fill them up, and then covered it over with soil. It was most fortunate for them that as compared with ourselves there was so little heavy traffic, though it is very likely this was not their opinion at the time. We certainly have a great advantage over them in being able to compare our much more perfected system with their most elementary mode, and I think the number must be few who would be inclined to continue the old system. We can easily perceive the great benefits to all which are derived from good roads, but respecting our ancestors I think I shall be within the bounds of truth in stating that they did not know what a really good road was, and therefore were unable to compare one with their own. In the Chamberlain's account for 1573 there is an item respecting a lane which had been mended (?) as follows: "For leyng of gorse in the lane by the Fryer Close and coveryng of yt wyth earth." I think most will say that as a fact that lane was not really mended, whatever may have been the opinion of our ancestors. To a considerable extent I have explained the condition of the roads in and near the town several centuries since. This state of things was continued in the rural districts to times far more recent than many will imagine, and even into the previous century.

In my younger days when in the country I have frequently spoken with aged farmers and other people about the past, the state of the roads, &c.,

and in most cases the information conveyed was to the effect that during a portion of the winter season it was almost impossible to get about with a conveyance, and if, as it frequently happened, they ran short of flour, &c., for household purposes I have often heard them say that they put some corn in a bag and were obliged to put it across the back of a horse and get to and from the mill as well as they could, for occasionally they would have to go several miles to reach it. In the Borough Reports, Vol. 4, p. 188, 1579, the Mickletorn Jury report a roadway as being in an undesirable condition, and "hit is so deepe-worne that hitt dothe owarthrow packe horses." This is useful as asserting the use of pack horses 325 years since, and that they were required because at some places and seasons vehicles were unusable and inappropriate. The Jury also report the want of "stepping-stones to be sett between Frear Poole and gaynst, Gene Brygges." The case just mentioned is an apt illustration of the state of the roads at the time, but as it appears to have been on London-road—and therefore away from the centre of the town I will give a case respecting the road at the top of Lister-gate and between the ends of Castle Gate and Low-pavement in A.D. 1607 (there was no Albert-street until about 240 years later), when the Mickletorn Jury Report or Present "Yat the stepping stones near James Perrie's door over the wain (wagon) way from Castle Gatt to the Loo Pavment be mended." Ordered that it be done.

In reading such a report as this the thought comes to our mind that the remedy might perhaps prove to be as bad or worse than the disease. In our time the question would be about the possibility of continuing the traffic of the town if large stepping stones were allowed to remain as fixtures across some of the throngest places in our busiest streets. Deering shows them at the top of Chapel-bar and end of Parliament-street, also at the end of Fisher-gate, &c. It must have been a troublesome time for drivers on a dark night to steer quite clear of them, though with such poorly-kept streets, together with the very numerous dung heaps, &c., &c., there would not from choice. I think, be many who drove out when it was dark. In addition to these most objectionable matters there were also in many streets and places large open drains to contend with when out at night, and probably one of the worst places in the town in that respect was St. Peter's-square, including the streets running into it. It is respecting this part with Castle-gate, Lyster-gate, &c., about which for a short time I desire to

make some remarks.

In olden times our ancestors used the word "rowell," which to them suggested the idea of a small stream, and it is in constant use for several centuries. From what we are told on p. 453, vol. iv., it has been a name for a brook, but in most of the cases mentioned in The Records it means an open sewer or drain. It is very probable that "the rowell" became the equivalent for a sewer in the course of a couple of centuries, and remained so a long time, though gradually disappearing or becoming obsolete. Yet its use had some effect, as will be seen where I mention at the commencement of my third letter a Mr. Rowell, who was a mechanical engineer, of Derby-road. I have at the present no recollection of ever hearing of such a name being applied to any other person. Commencing with St. Peter's-square and the streets in or near to it a report or presentment is made as follows:—"We present the Chamburleyns that ye Bryg in Hungate end is not made and yat the pamentes is not mended in many places of the towne." This is excellent evidence of the undesirable state of the streets at that period, A.D. 1515, though modern notions would, I think, say that the order needed much more serious consideration than it had received. We do not want nor will we now have except by compulsion such obstructions in the streets of the town, though from what may be found in The Records respecting the danger of crossing St. Peter's-square, &c., in the night time there can be no denying that it was high time "something" was done. The Mickletorne Jury in vol. iv., p. 216 "Report and present the Rowill in Hunegate (1587) end, to have a rayle sett up that people take no horte of it in Wynter nyghtes." In 1617 there is an item respecting "the mendinge of the rowell near Saint Peter's Church."

In some presentments at the Sessions, July 19, 1630, is the following: "We desire yat the waye in Hungate may be mended yat ther may be passage to carry ye dead corpes to the Churche, and alsoe carridges in ye winter tyme." In 1632 10s. was paid "for half a thousand of bricks for the Rowell at Hungate." At the same time, Robert Baker was paid 5s. for three stoops (posts) in Hungate. In 1640 the Mickletorn Jury, vol. v., say: "We request that there may be a brigge over the Rowell in Lister-gate." As being closely connected with the subject spoken of, I will also give a copy of a

report made 1641, July 19, which says: "We request that the hye wayes against Saint Jone's (John's) may be repaired for severall cattle bath (!) been in great danger of spoyling, and one horse had his leg broke with the overthrow of a cart." In 1701 the "Chamberlains were authorised to arch over the Rowell at the west end of Saint Peter's Church yard, and levell the ground over the same and thereabouts in such a manner as they shall think propper." This was very likely the beginning of the end, but several efforts were afterwards required before all could be completed, and the square be said to be even moderately finished. I am surprised to find that in olden times no name appears to have been applied to the open space now generally known by us as St. Peter's-square, and think this is fully proved by Deering's mode of describing it as adopted on page 9. There had been many repairs carried out on this ground about that period, and after referring to two other markets, he says: "Over and above all these markets a Monday market was lately (1742) endeavoured to be established on a piece of waste ground (?!) between the west of St. Peter's Church yard, Wheelergate and Houndgate, which attempt, though it did not answer the end because the country people would not take to it, yet has proved an advantage to the town, for this place, which is in the heart of the town, was a mere sink before and dangerous to pass, especially in the night, is now made good and as well paved as any part of Nottingham." Our notions of "waste ground" may probably differ with those of our ancestors.

In my early days I have a full remembrance of seeing in St. Peter's-square the stone Obelisk or Pillar which, though of no remarkable age, had stood there probably from 60 to 70 years. When Deering died about 1750 there was a small structure in the square under which, he tells us, the town fire-engines were kept, so this, of course, had been cleared away. As an open space St. Peter's-square has within the memory of many of the older inhabitants of the city been entirely altered in appearance, and, as a fact, much enlarged; two narrow outlets—Wheeler-gate and St. Peter's-gate—have been made into first-class streets. In Albert-street we have a comparatively new and wide outlet on that side. Then a good slice was taken from the west side of the churchyard and added to the square. In appearance, and assisted by the ends of the wide streets running into it and the piece

added, I consider that the square looks almost double its former size of 68 years since. The stone Obelisk was removed in 1836; it stood upon arches, and what I may truly call the "Old Rowell" could still be seen flowing under it, for it almost appeared as though our ancestors would not consent to be quite separated from their old open sewer. For some time the Obelisk had been illuminated, and therefore assisted in lighting the square at night. Twenty-five years since I was both amused and interested by the receipt of a letter from a valued old friend in Cambridgeshire, who left the town about 1826, in which he fully inferred that the Obelisk was still standing, and wished for information (1877). He had frequently been in the town since 1836, when it was removed, but does not appear to have gone by the square to notice its absence, or to have heard of its removal. Speaking from memory, I have the impression that it was encircled by an iron fence.

I have often wondered in what manner our ancestors carried the drainage of the town from Wheeler-gate or Hounds-gate under the old conditions to Lister-gate. Was it underground by Church-lane, or did they claim any right to follow the natural outfall and out through the buildings where Albert-street is now? In 1640 the Mickletorn Jury request that there may be a bridge over the Rowell in Lister-gate. This sounds odd to those living in recent times, and would undoubtedly be objected to by many, or probably all, as being entirely unsuitable. On an occasion or two I have read of the objectionable state of lower Lister-gate and the streets near, and seen it stated that the roads even at the bottom of that street were marshy and very bad. In a number of cases commencing more than six hundred years since St. Peter's-gate is referred to in the Title Deeds or grants of property as "a lane leading to St. Peter's Church," the earliest probably dating back to 1285-90.

In Vol. I., p. 281, A.D. 1395, the Mickletorne Jury report, and "say that Thomas Fox, draper, blocks up Peperlane with ordure to the serious detriment of the neighbours, and also holds there in the same street a cellar broken and open, to the serious detriment of the whole people there passing, and to the great damage of the liberty of the town aforesaid, &c." This refers to Pepper-street, and the last—except Peck-lane—running into St. Peter's-square. Peck-lane is an old footway, and in Vol. I., p. 437, it is referred to, A.D. 1336. On various occasions there is reference to the

Rowell (in St. Peter's-square) as needing repairs, or having been repaired, near to Peck-lane. In 1414 (see p. 445 of Vol. II.) it is described as Plumpton-lane, but fortunately the old name revived again, and continued down to the present time.

OLD NOTTINGHAM:

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XXI.

In this letter my subject will be varied to what has recently been the case, as I desire to take into consideration a matter connected with the government of the town in times long passed, which I have often thought must in its result have been most deleterious to its welfare generally, though apparently quite ignored or imperceptible to our unenlightened ancestors. It is the almost forcible expulsion on many occasions of those who were not burgesses, and therefore termed at the time forainers or forreyners, and in connection with which was the heavily fining of many who found them a house or lodgings, and also some who, by new buildings or alterations, added to the number of houses. Then there was what in recent times we should call the abominable interference with the liberty of the people in preventing anyone carrying on a business unless they had served an apprenticeship of seven years to it, even if it might be a small grocer's shop, such as is to be found in our back streets and alleys. This would even apply to a burgess or his wife. I have often thought that the word "freeman" was more expressive and suitable than the word "burgess," but when it is considered in relation to the state of affairs generally at the period the distinction was more especially made or observed (about or soon after the Norman conquest), the appropriate word to use, and one which carried its own meaning, was "freeman."

At that time over a great part, if not the whole, of England there were bondmen who remained with the land when sold, and, for aught I know, could not legally leave it without permission. In comparison with these the others were freemen, and not merely burgesses, for that word was applicable to the town only, but freeman applied to the whole of the country, which to a working man of the time was most important if he was really free; that is, free from any legal claim of another person to his services. Going back 800 years, there cannot be any mistake that the institution of towns and municipalities in various parts of the country where all were "freemen" must have acted favourably to.

wards those who were in bondage. As a town, Nottingham was very jealous that the liberty of the people should not suffer even in appearance, and it was contrary to law and rule for any free-man or burgess of Nottingham to wear the livery of an outsider. Several examples are given in the "Records" where this rule or law was broken, and I will mention one case relating to the Prior of Lenton, in Vol. III., p. 345, A.D. 1516. One of the presentments or reports to the sessions is as follows, "We present Herry Steper for talyng a lyuerey cote of the Priour of Lenton." (This was an offence against the Statutes of Liveries and Maintenance.) "We present the Priour of Lenton for meyntening of Herry Steper in weyryng his lyuery contrary to the Statute." A true bill was found against the Priour Thomas of Lenton. The charge continues as follows: "We present Henre Steper, Mercer, for weyryng ye same lyuery yat (ye) Priour of Lenton gyffes to his hownold servants, and so resayved it of ye sayd Priour." This was on the principle that when free we should keep free. Anyone residing in Nottingham without exception for a year and a day in time of peace and without claim, no one but the King had any right in him. This is embodied in a charter dating about A.D. 1189, and whatever King John's shortcomings may be in other respects, this will stand out as a valuable addition to the liberties of the people. Its concession was in the early days of those whom we may term freemen. I will now give a copy of a grant or conveyance of property, &c., registered at Nottingham, January 6th, 1340-41. It was from "Pain de Vilers, of Kinalton, Knight, to William de Amyas, of Nottingham, and Margery, his wife, of Geoffrey Hull, Ralph Hull, and Geoffrey Aylmer, all of Kinalton, bondemen ('nativi'), belonging to the said Pain, with all their chattels and 'sequels,' and with all other profits to wit, fisheries, pasturages, meadows, ways, waters, and turbaries within the town and without. He also grants to the same William three messuages and six bovates of arable land in Kynalton which the said bondemen hold in bondage of him." This is followed by the names of many witnesses. In vol. 1, p. 405, A.D. 1346-7, another grant or conveyance was arranged and made between the same parties. On this occasion two bondemen were turned over or transferred, namely, John del Grene, of Kinalton, and Robert Huberd of the same, bondemen. This was witnessed amongst others by Thomas de Edwalton, Mayor of

Nottingham, and William de Walton and William de Crophull, bailiffs. In June, 1348, p. 406, the same William de Amyas purchased of Bartholomew de Cotgrave his manor of Watnall Chaworth, Notts., and also his manor of Riddings, near Alfreton, Derbyshire. This purchase included bondsmen, &c., &c., in each manor, and with the other cases will be ample to show the state of many who unfortunately were not freemen. Here we have some account of each of the two lower orders of the people, bond and free, and with but little doubt I consider that the influence of the latter would be mainly in favour of the former being freed from their bondage, which in time was fortunately the case, helped as they possibly might be by residing in Nottingham or perhaps other places for a year and a day. There can be no two opinions that six or seven hundred years since the towns (which then were generally very small compared with present times) were the centres of personal liberty in this country, though in course of time, judging from Nottingham, they appear, as will be shown, to have lost much of that enviable distinction. In 1577 there was a request from the Mickletorne Jury "that there be made no mo ferrin Bordgeses (non-residents), but that they may pay £10 and no money batted (abated) fore there is to many already." In 1589 the jury requested "that all strangers, idle and vagrant persons shall be diligently examined if they remain here above three days, their state to be known, how they live, and can maintain themselves, and that such as you find suspicious to drive them from the town or otherwise let them remain in prison." It is much to be feared that one of the two latter alternatives would generally be put in force. In vol. 4, pp. 274-5, A.D. 1605, there is the copy of a petition from a number of non-burgesses weavers asking the Mayor, Aldermen, &c., that justice and equity may be meted out to them, they claim to be well behaved inhabitants desirous of earning a living for themselves and families if permitted, and ready to bear their just share of expenses, &c., &c.; but that they cannot satisfy the weavers who are burgesses. On page 301, April, A.D. 1611, "Edmonds the Hatter is called in question touching his trading here in town. Upon conference the company (Council) hath given him time till Lammes next (August 14) to make answer whether he will pay £10 fine for his freedom or leave the town, and in the meantime not to infringe the liberty of the town by his trading here. In 1613 there was a petition from the burgesses of the town

requesting that non-burgesses under the Corporation may be dispossessed of their houses and that burgesses may occupy them. There appears to be no question whatever respecting rent, but merely to exclude those who were not burgesses. In 1614-15 the wife of Richard Brookes was fined 3s. 4d. for taking in a stranger, but this was a mere trifle to what was afterwards ordered to be paid; for, in 1625, Maister Alton is reported for taking in Thomas Webb, a stranger, in the sign of the Cock and fined £3 6s. 8d., which, compared with our present money value, would represent more than £25. It will be seen, from the amount of fines imposed, that the taking in of strangers was once considered to be a crime of great magnitude. In the "Records," vol. IV., p. 192, A.D. 1579, the Mickletorn Jury, in their report, say, "We present all such as make any buildings in any lane or back syde of this town and take in any tenants to them that then the lorde lorde shall be bound to Maister Mayor and the towne in a good rounde somme of money to dyscharge the towne yf they leve any children be hinde them." On pages 237-8, A.D. 1593, a complaint is made in a report in which is said, "We present Maister Alderman Peter Clarke for making his barnes into dwellyn houses and taking souch pepell in as is a great decaye to the towne." At the same time Nicolas Nubbuld is also complained of for keeping three tenants in a house. On p. 254, Vol. IV., A.D. 1600, three weavers are reported, namely, William Barton, William Ward, and Nicholas Webster, "for occupienge the occupation of a weaver, contrary to an order set down." They were each fined 10s., which, as compared with our present rate of money would represent about four pounds, and for people in that station of life was an enormous and disproportionate fine. In the same year Richard Fyeld, wheele wryght, is reported for makynge ware, not being Burges. When he was fined 3s. 4d., which in the present times would represent about 26s. or 27s. In this case the Magistrates were much more lenient than in the other. In their report for 1577 the Mickletorn Jury say:—"Maister Maier, we desire you and your brethern that evere Alderman shall search his warde evere fortnyght at the least to see what strangers come to the town." Strangers, or foreigners as they were often called, were terrible bugbears to our ancestors, and all means, just and unjust, were employed to rid the town of them; and doubtless in a number of instances to the great loss of the town in preventing other trades settling

in it, and the following appears to be one of that class which was driven away most unjustly through the blindness of those in authority in 1624. In that year there was a presentment or petition to the sessions by the weavers of the town, in which they say: "Humbly sheweth that whereas there is one Robert Tomlinson, a stranger and coverlett-weaver, and using the trade of a wollen and linnen weaver lately come to the towne to sett up his trade here, and yet is neither Burgesse nor free of the said Company of Weavers, who if he be suffered to contynewe is likely to be verie prejudicial and hurtful to the said poore company, your petitioners, their wives, and children, and by reason thereof they feare they neither shall be able to pay the King's Majesty his due nor to maintain themselves and their families without being chargeable to the town; besides the said Tomlinson hath a wife and three children wloe yf he contynewe are like to come and dwell here also, and soe in time prove to bee chargeable." This does not follow, nor was it necessary, for the trades of a wollen and linnen weaver were as regards the probabilities of the case, far more likely to benefit and enrich the town than otherwise, as it is almost certain that there was no such trades being carried on in it at the time, and a number of years afterwards an endeavour was made to commence the trade of linen weaving, but apparently without success. Our town government of the period were "blind leaders of the blind" to the serious loss and detriment of the town and public generally. At a meeting of the Council or Corporation in November, 1635, it was "Ordered thatt everie Alderman shall once in 14 days with the assistance of some of his ward, walke his ward to see whatt strangers or inmates do come in, thatt some present coorse may be taken to avoyed (remove) them in time, according to the order." On 17th July, 1626, three different persons were all fined £3 6s. 8d. for taking in inmates, which is equal to £25 each in present money. In 1629 three persons were fined or bound over for using the trade of a wheelmaker, to which the petitioner asserts they had not been apprenticed. So that they could clear the town of strangers the authorities appear to have been quite indifferent respecting the loss that might be incurred with empty houses, &c., and this is proved respecting houses on land which now forms a most valuable and important part of the town. On March 5th, 1635, the Council resolved that "The cottages without Chapel Bar to be viewed, and the tenants in being to have notice

not to receive anie other tenants hereafter; and as the tenants dye then the howses to be stopped up, and nott to be used for any other habitacions or howses." This applies to all houses then on Toll House-hill or Derby-road, and also those in the upper part of what was then called Back-lane, but now Wollaton-street. On page 184, Vol 5, A.D. 1637, is the following—"Wee (the constables) present Maister Thomas Atkin for erecting a new tene-ment. Fined." No amount is stated. In 1638 Henry Hill is fined 10s. for taking a man and his wife as inmates. Under circumstances such as those just mentioned the surprise will be respecting the town; not that its progress was slow, but that there should be any advancement whatever. In October, 1638, there is a report at the Sessions, when it is said "We present Henery Armesone for Kepinge of a dumbe boy that cometh out of the countrie." Fined 10s., or about £4 in our present value for money. Continuing, the report says: "We request that you (the magistrates) will be pleased to speak to Richard Wood that our parish of Saint Maryes might be discharged of Mistress Lasenbey and her children."

OLD NOTTINGHAM.

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XXII.

In the "Borough Records," vol. 5, pp. 192-3, A.D. 1638, October, there are three noticeable reports at the sessions by the constables; in the first they say: "We present Henry Hill for lately erecting too tenements in a howse taken of the town, in the parish of St. Peter's." Fined £4 6s. 8d. In the second they say: "We present Maister Atkin for erecting divers tenements in Castell-gate, in the parish of St. Nicholas." Fined also £4 6s. 8d. In the case of the first the house may have been the property of the town, and we do not know what power the tenant may have had over it, but in the second case the property appears to have been the freehold of Maister Atkin, yet none the less, the Council would not allow him to add to the number of houses in the town for fear of the possibility of enabling strangers or "farriners" to gain a lodgement therein. As regards the fines, they were monstrously disproportionate and unjust, and in comparison with our present money would for each represent nearly thirty-five pounds (£35). In the third case the constables say: "We present Thomas Ashby, Millner (miller), for taking a child, a farriner." For this he appears to have been fined 20s., or about £8 of our present money. It would be interesting to know how long relatives, &c., from a distance, when visiting the town, were allowed to stay with their friends before the authorities interfered with them, or ordered them to return? On page 195, A.D. 1639, the Mickleton Jury say: "We present Robert Baill, chandlere, for letting a barne on the town's ground to a farrinere." For this he was fined 10s., or an equivalent for nearly £4 of our present money.

Fortunately for the world, gross acts of tyranny do not always last long without their Nemesis, and such was the result at the time mentioned, though I fear that the minds of our ancestors were so prejudiced that they were unable to perceive or understand the cause of the retribution which followed close upon their unjust acts. In mentioning the amount of the town debt of 262 years since, which to the Council of the time was a great burden, some amusement

may be caused to many of my fellow-citizens; though before comparing it with our present money it should be multiplied by about eight, and further, the town of that period in size was probably not much if any more than one twenty-fifth of what Nottingham is at the present time. I will now give an extract from the minutes of the Common Council of Wednesday, April 15th, 1640, and vol. 5, p. 197, of "The Records." It is as follows:—"This company taking into consideration the towne's debts and thatt they doe amount unto £550, for which or the most part thereof the towne payeth interest, and the chamber of the towne by reason of those and such like payments is not able to subsiste, nor the Revenewes sufficient to defray or bear the same chardges and expenses." They then proceed to put a charge upon the land for which burgesses previously had paid little or no rent, but the incompetents could not see that they had caused the trouble themselves by practically strangling the town or stunting its growth. Judging by what is mentioned on other occasions in respect to borrowed money, the interest payable for the £550 mentioned would be £10 per centum per annum or £55. At the present date for the same amount the interest payable by the town would be about £17 per year, and the city, though owing millions of money, does not feel the pinch of poverty, as was the case in 1640, with an indebtedness of only £550, or equal to £4,400.

In Vol. V. of the "Records," p. 248, A.D. 1647, at a meeting of the Council on March 9th there is the following: It is ordered by this company that (according to the aunciente custome of the Towne) the shoppe windowes of all persons that trade in this Towne whoe are not sworn burgesses shall be forthwith shutt upp, and the Maior's sergeant and common sergeant is to see the same doone accordingly, as hath beene aunciently used, the markett day excepted, and the said persons alsoe to pay tolls and bee dealt with as forsigners." In the same year, on page 251, is the following: "It is agreed that Maister Burrowes and Maister Pywell shall be restrained from traedinge in the towne, beinge no burgesses, and so others in their condicion, and Maister Maior and his brethren to see it doone accordingly with some of this company." By the mode of addressing these two persons as "Maister" Burrowes and "Maister" Pywell there is sufficient evidence to prove that they were men much higher in the social scale than a number of those who have

been mentioned or called to account previously, and Maister Pywell appears to have refused to carry out or observe the injunction of the Council as regarded himself, therefore on August 13th, 1647, they "Ordered that Maister Recorder be spoaken to and advised with, to give direccions what to bee done against Maister Pywell and others yat are foreinors (non-burgesses) and refuse to give over tradeinge." In September, 1647, the Council "Ordered that all Constables to bring a note to theire Alderman of all foreigners come into the town within four yeares last, that a course may be taken to remove such as are poore and likely to bee chargeable, and such as hinder the burgesses by tradeinge." On page 257, October, 1648, there is the following entry: "Agreed, Maister Maior to shutt upp forainers' shopp windows (non-burgesses) yat trade in the Towne, and to be managed and borne out in see doing by and at the Towne's charge."

A large portion of the Council's time must have been occupied in the consideration of strangers, and preventing their settlement in the town, as in the year 1648, April, respecting the poor, "It is agreed all landlords yat receive in chargeable poore to be delt with or assessed to maintain them accordinge to lawe." There was but little probability that the landlords would accept of any responsibility respecting the maintenance of their tenants. In August, 1649, the Council resolved "that th's company do not think fitt to graunt Nicholas Atkinson's request in his petition to build a house upon any wast or Towne's ground, because he is no burgesse." This must have been a man who was at least moderately well off with a house of his own, and possibly more; there was not any probability of his becoming burdensome to the town, but rather an employer of labour and spender of money in the locality; but what was that to the incapables on the Council who really appear to have been unable to see or judge of anything further than their nose before them. Here is a man who was desirous of becoming, and would have made an excellent town resident, but they would have none of him, to the great loss of the town because (and most unfortunately for it) he was not a burgesse.

I will now give some account of Laurence Collin, who was the founder of the family from whom one of the most important charities in the city has sprung, but no thanks whatever are due to the beings involved in moral darkness, who unfortunately for the town had at the time authority over

it, but who in the interests of justice and freedom were unwillingly brought under the control of a man who could see much in advance of themselves, and had the power and will to enforce his decisions. I am here referring to Oliver Cromwell. On pages 253-4 of Deering's Nottingham he says: "A.D. 1648, the 27th January, the garrison of Nottingham Castle was mustered, by which it appears that then it consisted only of one company of foot of one hundred private men, exclusive of drummers, commanded by Captain Poulton, governor. At this time one Laurence Collin was gunner of the Castle, of whom 'tis remarkable that after the garrison was disbanded he chose to stay at Nottingham in order to follow his former occupation, which was wool-combing, but the Corporation offering to give him disturbance he petitioned Cromwell; this occasioned the following order to be sent to the Governor, which accidentally dropt into my (Deering's) hands, viz.:—'Sir,—His Highness the Lord Protector having heard the petition of Laurence Collin, which is here enclosed, is pleased to recommend it unto you to speak to the Mayor and other magistrates of Nottingham to know the reason why they will not suffer the petitioner to set up his trade in the town, and if there be no other cause of exception, but that he is not a freeman in regard that he has faithfully served the Commonwealth, his Highness does think it fit that he should continue in the town and be admitted to follow his calling for the maintenance of himself and his family. Which is all I am commanded to you from his Highness by the hands of, sir, your very humble and faithful servant, Lisle Long. Whitehall, 7th July.'"

Continuing, Deering further tells us that "After this he lived in quiet and laid the foundation of a thriving family in Nottingham, which at this time (about 1740) is very considerable, being strengthened by the intermarriage into the family of George Langford, Esq., one who had not only been an eminent surgeon, but also bore a commission in the Parliament army, and was Mayor of Nottingham at the revolution. Laurence lived to the 91st year of his age, as appears by his gravestone in St. Nicholas' Church." Deering on page 44 gives the following as being the inscription upon his monument:—"Here lieth the body of Laurence Collin, who departed this life the 9th day of August, in the 91st year of his age. A.D. 1704." Abel Collin (1 son of Laurence Collin), the founder and endower of the extensive Hospitals in the city, died 2nd April,

A.D. 1705. In some cases Deering puts "w" in the name of Lawrence, and at other times spells it Laurence, and in each instance I have done the same, though one, of course, must be incorrect.

The following will show the difference of opinion in the past as compared with recent times. At a meeting of the Council, Monday, May 25th, 1657, it was resolved that "This companie are of oppynion nott to make Robert Hunt a Burgesse for thatt there is no such trade as a lynnne draper used in this towne, to which trade he was bound apprentice to Adam Jackson as it appeareth. And the reason of Robert Huntts deniall was for that the same might bee of evell consequence in bringinge in Maulsters to be Burgesse an such lyke, &c." On page 322, Vol. 1 of the Records, 1681-2, there is an entry as follows:—"Howses yat were lately built against the south side of the wall of Saint Marye's Church." From what follows there must probably have been a war of words and some heart-aching at the thought that the town had probably increased the accommodation that could be found for strangers by building some new houses, and therefore on the date above given the Council resolved that "It is this day ordered yat the Chamerlyns for the time being shall take down the severall howses against the south side of Saint Marye's Church-yard that are now untenanted, and dispose of the materials thereof to the use of this Corporacion." Were they or were they not demented? As between the remaining or continuing of a new house or of a stranger they unhesitatingly say "pull the house down."

On p. 326, May 4th, 1685, there is a complaint at the sessions, and they say, "We do present William Bilbey and Edward Ashmore for practicinge Phisicke and surgery not having a licence." Robert Tompson is also reported for the same. On p. 327, Mary Kitchin and Anne James are presented "for selling several commodities as Groserie, Candles, Sope, Staroh, Strong Waters, and Tobacco, not serving seaven yeares to a Groser." As regards ourselves in recent times, I think nearly all would say that they deserved much credit for not uselessly wasting their time in serving seven years to pick up what might for a little shop of the sort be learned in seven days. On the same page Daniel Browne and John Sharp are reported for taking in lodgers. On p. 331, in a report to the Sessions, five men are mentioned as following the trades of Leather Seller, two Last-makers, Upholsterer, and a Sword Cutler, all for not less than

a month last past, and keeping open shops, also two women, one a linen draper and the other a grocer, and it is complained that none had been apprenticed seven years to any of the trades mentioned. On page 334, John Newcome, John Palmore, Nathaniel Chamberlin, Thomas Nix, and John Woolmore are complained of for selling fish and higling without a licence." A.D. 1688, p. 340, there is a complaint of "Nathaniel Wild for using the trade of an Upholsterer and exposing his wares publicly upon his staul, and keeping open shopp, not being a freeman of this Corporation of Nottingham."

On 5th October, 1688, John Glasop is complained of for taking in lodgers. May 20th, 1697, Master Moakes, bookseller, and another are discharged from using their trades, not being burgesses. At that time there does not appear to have been a printing press in Nottingham, for the first was introduced into the town by Mr. Ayscough in 1710. (Deering, p. 40.) About 40 years after that date there were three booksellers and two printers in Nottingham, so they were not numerous. On April 13th, 1698, the Council "Ordered that special care shall be taken to prosecute and suppress all forrainers from, and for using any trade within the said towne, and also all others who shall use any trade in the said towne unto which they have not served as an Apprentice (sic) within the said towne, though he or they be a Burgess or Freeman of the said towne. And that a convenient number of persons in every ward shall be appointed to get what contributions they can for that purpose." June 16th, 1699, the Council threaten to prosecute those storing or stacking coal unless all others are supplied first. I have now given numerous examples of incompetency on the part of the old Town Council, judged by present-day experience.

OLD NOTTINGHAM:

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XXIII.

I propose in this article to take into consideration various extracts from an old book of account relating to the business matters of the town in its various districts and departments one hundred and thirty years since, and specially in reference to persons who may have had descendants known to some of us or to matters or things mentioned which have come within our knowledge.

It is interesting to note the first entry in the old book, which is as follows:—"Matthew Pratt for the Bowling Alley House £2 10s.," which was the rent for a year at that time. In my first letter, dated November 4th, 1901, I mention this as being a little more than 50 years previously the only house between Alfreton-road and Sherwood-street or the back of Mansfield-road, and whose common name was "The Ginger Beer House." It was an old-fashioned building, and had probably stood there nearly 150 years when it was demolished. Another item tells us that "William Darker for two houses on the waste without Chappel-bar (pays) 6s." This I have no doubt was for the ground rent only, and that Mr. Darker had himself built the houses, which to some extent is, I think, within my own knowledge. More than sixty years since I well remember some one who (speaking from memory) was named George Darker and owned two cottages in Derby-street on its western side. This is the top thoroughfare between Derby-road and Wollaton-street. As a young fellow I frequently conversed with him (he was an aged man), and on one occasion he informed me that in his younger days he had often spoken with persons who remembered the exciting times when the rebels came as far south as Derby in 1745. The two houses have been pulled down many years and much larger buildings erected in their place. If no change has since been made in name there is still a Darker's-court in Broad-marsh, which once for the most part, if not altogether, belonged to the Darker family, and I believe it to be the one on the eastern side of Mr. Fleeman's shop. I have no knowledge of any representative of the family being now left.

It seems strange in recent times to read that Michael Kayes and John Smith each owned a house

and a "garden" on Derby-road (130 years since), and that Mr. Wyer and Mr. Goodall had a stack-yard and garden there, and that Richard Musson had a garden at the upper end of Labray's Hospital, and that Mr. Robert Smith's heir had a hovel and barn. These generally are now conspicuous by their absence. There is one entry which makes it seem probable that considerably more than a century since there were facilities for weighing vehicles with their loads, &c. It is as follows:—"Mr. Fras. Hall and Comp. for the machine without Chappel-bar." Many of my older fellow-citizens will remember that until about 40 years back there was a weighing machine on Derby-road about twenty yards higher up than the Three Horse Shoes Inn. There is one item of much interest which relates to Michael Kayes, whom I have before noticed. We are told of a case or two (yet without particulars) where he had hired or taken land on Toll House Hill, but fortunately we have information in one instance which enables us to compare the past and the present times. After describing an arrangement just made by him (Michael Kayes), we are told "Same for a piece of ground 24 feet in length and 16 in breadth on the outside of Chappel Bar, on which he has built a workshop adjoining to his dwelling house." By its description the ground appears to have been within a short distance of "the Bar." There were 42 2-3 square yards of land included in this letting, the rent payable for which was 5s. per year. This is barely three halfpence for each yard.

From twenty-five to thirty years since three hundred yards of land at the top of the hill were let for 7s. per yard per year, and lower down considerably a rather larger quantity was let for about 7s. 6d. per square yard (7s. 5d. to 7s. 7d.), but within six or seven years other land there was let for eight shillings and ninepence per square yard per annum. This averages more than fifty times the amount paid 130 or 140 years since, yet it is possible that the larger rents may prove the most profitable with so throng a road and a population which has so enormously increased. I find the name of "Mr. Daft Smith, of Snenton, for a stable on the outside of Chappel Bar." This causes other thoughts to arise respecting a melancholy circumstance which occurred more than sixty years since (I think in 1837 or 1838), when some one with much the same name—Daft Smith Churchill, and a merchant of Nottingham—was drowned in the Forfarshire steam vessel on the

occasion when Grace Darling's heroism was brought so prominently before the public in consequence of her noble efforts to save the lives of the passengers, &c. I consider from the similarity of the two names that Daft Smith Churchill of 1837 was a descendant or distant relative of the Daft Smith of 130 years since. I believe I am correct in asserting that a short time after his death the directors of the General Cemetery caused a large tomb or monument to be erected to the memory of Mr. Churchill on the ground, who was, I believe, also a director.

There are yet many who will remember "The Old Leather Bottle" in Hookley. In Deering's excellent old map of the town it is shown to have two large trees growing a short distance from the house in the open space on the front. There was, as far as I remember, a large yard with many useful stables, &c., in it, and also a considerable amount of room in the house. It will be interesting to many to be informed that about 130 years since the rent was £21. In former times the encroachments by private individuals upon the public or town land were persistent, and continued with all classes. I find that there is an entry of 2s. 6d. as having been paid by "Mr. Ichabod Wright for his palisades before his house and steps; and John Newton, Esq., for an incroachment by a building at the top of Sheep Lane adjoining 'The White Hart'" is credited with paying also 2s. 6d. There is a record as follows:—"Mr. Alvery Doddsly, an incroachment by posts before Timberhill houses; Mr. Lomax and other tenants 6d." I remember a Mr. James Lomax, who was a grocer on Timber Hill 65 years or more since, and also his son, Mr. Edward Lomax. Aided by the interesting work of my friend and respected fellow-citizen, Mr. James Ward, on the "Monumental Inscriptions in the Baptist Burial Ground, Mount-street, Nottingham," I may say that James Lomax died in July 1850, aged 88 years, and his son, Edward Lomax, in January, 1858. The former would be about ten years of age at the time that the entry under consideration was made, and therefore the Mr. Lomax referred to as one of the tenants would in all probability be his father, though in after years the property or shop which was a little to the east of the top of Wheeler-gate became his own, and I have reason for believing that it remained in his family until the death of his son, Mr. Edward Lomax. For a number of years they had retired from business, and resided in Lenton-terrace, the

Park; and Sarah, wife of Mr. Edward Lomax and the last of the family, died there on July 5th, 1864. Two other public-houses are mentioned as belonging to the town with their rental. The first is "William Goodburn for the Unicorn's Head"; the rental paid for this was £11. Then comes "Richard Dodson for the Flaming Sword"; for this the rental was £15. No information is given respecting their situation.

In the year 1693, after some previous consideration, the Town Council appointed several of their number "to get subscriptions for the buying of a water engine for the use of the inhabitants of this towne, and to treat with such as they shall think fitt." On Friday, September 11th, 1696 (Vol. 1 of the Records, p. 392), it is recited, "That this day a draught lease to Master John Ross, Master Benjamin Greene, and Samuell Watkinson from this Corporation about the Waterworks was read and agreed unto by this house, and ordered to be ingrossed; and that Master Alderman Salmon, Master Sheriffe Briggs, and Master John Wingfield, with the Chamberlyns, do view and set out the ground at the end of St. James's-lane where the designed cisterne is to be made and erected, &c." This cistern is shown upon Deering's map of nearly 160 years since, but it appears to have been afterwards constructed considerably nearer to Butt Dyke (now Park-row) than had at first been arranged. Most certainly with present-day notions, our estimate of the water as regards quality would have caused it to rank very low, for it was proposed to make use of the Leen. It was no doubt in far better condition then than now, but still very objectionable. On Wednesday, September 22nd, 1697, the Council "Ordered that the Bridge Masters doe pay unto Master Benjamine Greene, and Master Samuel Watkinson fifty pounds which shall be allowed in their accounts, itt being part of the moneys the Mayor and Burgesses are to pay unto them for the four parts or shares of the Waterworks in the town of Nottingham purchased of them." On June 27th, 1700, Messrs. Huthwait, Armstrong, Firth, Richards, Barke, Radfarth, and the Chamberlains were appointed to meet the undertakers of the Waterworks on behalf of the Corporation as oft as they met to consult about the same. In the Borough Records, as above mentioned, we are told that the Corporation were to have four shares, but in the old book of account to which I have frequently referred in this communication there is recorded as follows:—Mr. John Collin, treasurer

for the proprietors of the Waterworks, for the dividends of the Corporation "three" shares in the Waterworks at £10 per share, £30, which is one share less than what is mentioned in the Reports, though a most excellent "divident" on the £50, before stated to have been invested in the undertaking. The old Waterworks were those which were rather lower down the hill than the top of Brewhouse-yard, and were once at the western angle of the street against the Boulevard.

We are informed that "Mr. Richard Dale, for a shop under the Council Room in the Guild Hall, called Tanners' Hall," paid £2. He also had a cellar under it, and for this he paid £1. Though it must not be forgotten that this was 130 years since. Thomas Wakefield is mentioned at the same time as paying £6 for a tenement without Chappel Bar. This was probably an ancestor or relative of the Wakefields, who will be remembered as townsmen by some of my older fellow-citizens. Samuel Page paid for a shop in the Booths, and possibly he may have some connection by relationship with others of the same name now with us. "Mrs. Gregory, for a passage from the Hollow-stone under Short-hill to her dwelling-house, paid 2s. 6d. acknowledgment," and "Mrs. Adam Youngs, widow, for a like passage to her house on Short-hill near the other, paid 2s. 6d." The Rev. Mr. Williams, for a like passage to his dwelling-house on Short-hill, paid 2s. 6d., and also 6d. for a cellar which was under it—total 3s. I recently noticed that there were several passages (? four) still under Short-hill, and I can only hope that the acknowledgments continue to be claimed by the town. Henry Lockett, for a house and shop on Smithy-row, is only credited with paying £1 10s. rent, and Widow Johnson, for a house there, paid £2. These appear, for that locality, to be mere acknowledgments, but the next is more. "Mr. Hurst for a new built messuage on Smithy-row near the County Shambles paid £18." "Joseph Spurr, for his house in the rock near the pinfold, paid 4s. This must have been very little even for a house of that character. "The Trustees of the Lamps," for the oyle reservoir under the Hall stairs, paid 1s. acknowledgment. There is then a rather curious entry. Mr. Fletcher, staymaker, for the use of the leads over the Butchers' shops in the country shambles for half a year, 10s., and in addition "for the privilege of a door opening from his house into the passage leading from the Country Shambles into the Market-place he paid 6d.

The names of a number of tenants are given as occupying "the new built houses by Labray's Hospital (on Toll House-hill or Derby-road) rent to be collected quarterly, £3 each." The foremost to be mentioned is Isaac Muggleston, for the first tenement eastward. This is undoubtedly an old name on Toll House-hill and as a fact, one may still be found there connected with that family. In my earliest recollection I knew a Mr. Robert Muggleston, who resided on the hill at the end of Mark-lane, which has now disappeared. He died an aged man in 1861. He had a brother named Isaac Muggleston, and also a son Isaac, who died in 1871, and his widow still resides in the locality. I have no means of knowing how long the first Isaac Muggleston had been on the hill when his name was mentioned, but here is proof that one or more of the family have resided there for fully 130 years. There is a Mugglestone-place on Alfreton-road, almost facing Newdigate-street, where the family owned property. There may possibly be other families who have resided as long in that part, but, if so, I have not observed anything by which I could recognise them in the old book. A Mr. Calar is entered as having a house on the waste near St. Mary's Workhouse (Mansfield-road), late in the tenure of Thomas Searson. Probably this Mr. Calar or some relative occupied the close which was so named and near.

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XXIV.

Continuing my extracts from the "Old Book of Account" of 130 years since; Caleb Parr's executors are stated to have paid £10—annual rent for "Saint Ann's Well House, &c.," and Mr. John Padley, of Calverton, paid £50 for Lambley Closes. Another entry tells us that "William Taylor, framesmith, for a pece of ground near Swine Fair adjoining to the Back-lane and a stable with a hay chamber over it paid 5s." This appears very little, though the interesting part is if possible to recognise the spot where "Swine Fair" was situated. I have no recollection of ever hearing of such a thing before, and have no idea of the place where it was held or so called. Mr. Lacey paid 2s. for a rope house near Butt Dyke (Park-row), which certainly should be considered very reasonable for a year's rent; another item says "John Simpson, for the privilege of a ropewalk above the workhouse (? St. Mary's, Mansfield-road) near Edward Pepper's garden; paid 6d.," and there cannot be any doubt that he was much favoured.

According to the "Records," a fee of twenty pounds per year in olden times appears to have been allowed to the Mayor of Nottingham, and the first occasion I have seen occurred in 1496. Respecting the year 1500 we are informed of a number of payments made by the Chamberlains, for which they ask to be accredited by the Council; one being "For £20 paid by them to Richard Mellors, Mayor, in full payment of his fee this year, &c." In 1537-8, p. 375, vol. 3, there is an entry of £10 as having been paid to the Mayor. I have not observed another payment to him for this year, though on page 378, A.D. 1540, there is the following entry:—"Item to Maister Meyre for hys fyrste halffe yere fee £10." In a note at the bottom of the page we are informed that "There is a payment of a like amount for 'hys laste halffe yere.'" In vol. 4, p. 281, A.D. 1606, is the following:—"Maister Freeman nominated into the offyce of Maior. And upon a mocion made for the allowance of £40 a yere to the Maior from the towne, ytt seems to be yeilded unto and well liked and not contradicted by any." In vol. 5, p. 328, A.D. 1685, August, the Council resolve that "Whereas formerly the Major (Mayor) had but £10 quar-

terly for his salary, this house, considering the great expenses the Major is at in his Majoralty (which far exceed his aforesaid salary), have unanimously consented and ordered that £10 more quarterly shall be added to his salary; so that henceforth the Major for the time being shall have £20 paid him quarterly by the Chamberlains; first payment at Xmas." It is very probable that £80 per year at the above date would be equivalent to £400 or £500 in these times.

I will now return to the "Old Book of Account" previously mentioned, from which information of an interesting kind may be gathered of about three-quarters of a century later date than what has at present been reached by the "Borough Records." A hundred and thirty years since there is this entry: "The Mayor for the year £60." This looks like a reduction to what was voted 90 years before, but another item is "The Mayor for Wine £7 4s.," and a third item entered is "The Mayor instead of the fruit toll £10 10." This makes the total £77 14s., or only £2 6s. less than what had once been allowed. But there is another item which, though small, is very singular, and it is "The Mayoress for Pinns 6s. 8d." In the fourteenth article I refer to Deering and the fee of one shilling which in olden times was paid to the Mayoress by all when made burgesses or freemen of the town. In consideration of this she was expected to find a rope at each bull-baiting. For many years before these displays ended efforts had been made for their abolition, and they were at last successful. The period appears to have been between 1702, when the fifth volume of the "Records" ends, and 1751, when Deering's "History of Nottingham" was printed; though it is probable that the particulars will be given in the sixth volume when issued. At the time the baiting ceased an arrangement was made that whenever a bull was killed the butcher should pay the Mayoress three shillings and fourpence for "pin money." It thus appears from the entry in the old book referred to that two bulls had been slaughtered, which would make up the 6s. 8d. there recorded. I believe I am correct in stating that 70 years since, or in and previous to the year 1832, and probably even in 1835, the town accounts were not independently audited even if they were audited in any form, or possibly the "pinns" and wine might have been struck out. I admit that the town had no right to claim or expect that anyone holding the office of Mayor should pecuniarily suffer

from so doing.

We have full evidence from the "Records" going back probably three centuries or more, that there were some good "Trencher men" on the Council or connected with the Corporation, and it would within living memory be possible to select or name a few who had once similar capabilities in a rather eminent degree. Some of this class I do not doubt would gladly vote to increase the Mayor's stipend in the hope and expectation of an extra "feed" or two. It is very satisfactory to know that such objectionables are getting scarce. I shall probably have more to say shortly upon this subject in connection with the Sheriffs, &c. That a number of the Council had no objection to obtain their drink free is evidenced by an entry in the "Records," vol. iv., p. 211, A.D. 1585. Under the heading of necessary expenses in the Chamberlain's accounts there are three items, two of which are for carting convicted persons about the town as a punishment, and the third says, "14th August, paid for wine and sugar that was druncke at the choosinge of our Maior, 3s. 10d." This, as regards our present money, would be equivalent to about £1 10s. Other cases of a similar kind might be mentioned, but I thoroughly object to their being entitled "necessary expenses."

In the "Old Book of Account" there is an entry of 10s. as being paid for ringing the Mayor's bell at nine o'clock (? in the evening), and the same amount for ringing the Market bell, but unfortunately there are no further particulars. The Deputy-Recorder appears to have had £4 4s. paid to him. Proportionately this does not appear to be a large amount, though only 8s. appears to have been paid to the two Coroners. The Town Clerk is rather better off, for he is mentioned as receiving £3 13s. 4d., though without much doubt considerably more would be given to him and some others. The "Ministers" of the three parishes are mentioned in connection with a charity for giving bread to the needy. One hundred and thirty or 140 years since, and probably much less, the word "reverend" as applied to such persons had been but little used, if at all, and therefore, comparatively speaking, it is of recent introduction.

In former times, and even for a great part of four hundred years, the town employed a mole catcher. In vol. iv., p. 164, A.D. 1576, in two items the Chamberlaine paid to Bacon and Edmonson for takynge of mouldes in the felde 27s. 4d., and they appear to have been paid after the rate of a penny for each

mole. In 1577, 37s. 9d. was paid. In 1579 Edmondson was appointed mole catcher. In 1627 Lamb is paid 3s. 4d. for killing four dozen of "moulds." In 1663, December 12, the Council ordered: "That the Chamberlayns shall pay for catching of moles but 12d. a dozen for the time to come. (See vol. v., p. 396, A.D. 1697.) It is by the Council "Ordered that Francis Stephens, the 'Mowdy Warpe,' or 'Mole Catcher,' be discharged as a useless officer, and that every person pay for the moles taken in his owne ground." This is distinct and decisive, and no doubt was observed for some time, though without the 6th Volume of the "Records" nothing further is known for about three-quarters of a century, and then I find in the o'd book of Account that the office had been revived, and that £5 was paid to Samuel Upton, the Mole-catcher, though no further particulars are given about the number killed, &c. The Chamberlain's fee was £1 6s. 8d., and duplicates for the rental 18s., and books 5s. 4d. The chief rent of the Lambley land is 13s. 4d. The Scavenger, the Beadle, the Mace Bearer, the other Serjeant, the Bellman, the Keeper of the Meadows, the Keeper of the Fields and Woods, and the Pinder, all are mentioned. Then comes the turn of the four Town Waits. The first occasion on which I find any mention of them is in the "Records," Vol. II., p. 379, A.D. 1464, where there is an entry: "To the Waits for their fees 20s. To the Waits for their liverys 15s." At this date, and I think I might say for nearly 250 years later, the waits were three in number, but about 1770, or before they had been increased to four, it will be interesting in one of the succeeding volumes of the "Records" to be informed of the time when they were finally discharged. In 1770 they had 40s. each allowed.

There is one item in the o'd book of account respecting which I have no recollection of having seen any reference elsewhere. We are told that "The Lord Chief Justice of England receives the Exhibition money for the King's Bench and Marshalsea prisons; each 20s. and receipts 2s," which forms a total of £2s 2s. One hundred and thirty years since the Nottingham Corporation had borrowed £500 from Mr. Ichabod Wright, for which interest after the rate of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum was payable half-yearly, commencing from 5th July. They had also borrowed from Messrs. Ichabod Wright and Sons £300 at the same rate of interest, payable

yearly on the 28th February. Mr. Knowles lent them £600 at the same rate of interest, due half-yearly on the 28th of April and the 28th of October. Alderman Hollins lent them £100 at the same rate of interest, payable and due on the same dates as the money lent by Mr. Knowles. This would probably be most or all of the money borrowed.

I now wish to take into consideration the case of the two Sheriffs. In the old book of account it appears that between them they received "for their chief rent 15s. 4d. For their Close £2 13s. 4d., and for Tolls given up to the Corporation £12," a total of £15 8s. 8d., or £7 14s. 4d. for each of them. There can, I think, be no doubt that in past years the Sheriffs on various occasions were most sourly treated by the Corporation or Council. Other honorary (!) officials may have shared in that treatment occasionally, but not to the same degree. With shameless and undisguised impudence our ancestors on the Council, who appear to have had no objection at any time to a good meal and a "cheap one," made no request to the Sheriffs that they would give them a dinner two or three centuries since, but actually demanded one as of right, accompanied by threats of fine and disfranchisement. See "Records," Vol. IV., p. 320, A.D. 1614. "Maister Jowett and Maister Alvey. Sheriffs, being called here before this company (the Council) to show cause why they doo not make their Sheriffs' dinner this year, according to custom, they both answered ytt peremptorily that they will neither make a dynner nor gyve a penny fyne or composition; whereupon this company with one assent doo all agree except John Stanley that the said sheriffs shall pay the fyne of £10, according to the order in that behalfe made, before the first day of October next, or otherwise in default thereof they shall both then be disfranchised and theyr partes and landes which they have of the townes shalbe then taken from them and lett to others, and so remain as foreyners." The fine of £10 would, in our present money value, represent nearly £80 at the date above given.

A large portion of the year of Messrs. Jowett and Alvey had expired and their successors, Maister Perry and Maister Ludlum, had been selected. We are informed that they were "called hither about the same cause to know whether they will make the dynner or no they 'honestly' say they will perform it lovingly." Messrs. Richard Jowett and John Alvey were again called before the Council to know

if they would submit themselves to the company for their fine of £10 for not making their Sheriffs' dinner last yeaere, yea or no, Richard Jowett submitted himself and John Allvey refused to agree, and it was agreed to disfranchise him and to take away two acres of land which he held of the town's, and so "to restreyne his insolence." He shortly afterwards submitted. Of his share of the fine (£5) Mr. Jowett had two pounds returned to him for "submitting" earlier, but Mr. Allvey received back £1 only because of his "insolence" (!) in standing out for his natural rights. In August, 1616, p. 346, vol. 4, we are told "this company had conference with Robert Burton and John Calton touchinge the offyce of Sherivaltie, and they refuse to be bownde and to doo as others have done. Therefore this company (the Council) ys of opinion to spare them and to make two others in their roomths." September 6th, 1616, "Before this company was the matter of the new Shirriffs spoken of against Michaelmas next, and they all with one assent doo intend to choose Maister Samuel Burrowes and William James to be Shirriffs, who will take ytt upon yem and will doo all things as formerly hath bene and will make theyr Sheriffs dynner (God willing :) according to custome."

Were not these good "trencher men" on the Council? Is it not plain that their first consideration was a good dinner and a cheap one? In 1617 Maister Rockett and Maister Hurtt were called to account for not making their Shirriff's dinner. Mr. Hurtt submitted himself, but Mr. Rockett "obstinately" refused to pay his part of the fine (£5), "therefore this company have disfranchised him and doe bould him nott fitt to be reputed or taken as a member of the same towne." I think most will agree that he was much more honoured in refusing to submit than the one who submitted. The Council not only insisted with the grossest presumption upon the Shiriffs giving them a dinner each year, but they actually assumed to themselves the authority of choosing the place at which they would partake of it. On page 154, vol. 5, is the following:—"This company are content that the Shreves now in being (1632) shall have liberty to make their feast att Thurland House notwithstandinge the order be made at the Hall." (? Town Hall.) This may perhaps have been intended as an act of "grace" on the part of the Council, though to others it will appear similar to "looking a gift horse in the mouth." It was, of course, very thoughtful on the

part of the Corporation to allow the ~~Sheriffs~~ the use of an alternative Hall in which they might give their feast, but the knowledge that they would have been disfranchised had they not consented to incur the cost of a dinner for the Corporation remains, and causes a feeling of contempt to arise towards them for their unblushing meanness, which compels us to look with suspicion upon many of their acts.

OLD NOTTINGHAM:

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XXV.

In this article I desire to take into consideration matters referring to St. Ann's Well, and more especially as regards its connection with the Mayor and Corporation of the town when going back several centuries, but commencing with some remarks respecting Shepherd's Race, which many will still remember, though it has long since disappeared. Whilst engaged with this I have before me an excellent engraved plan of good size, published in 1797 by J. Wigley, of Nottingham. It is called "Shepherd's Race, or Robin Hood's Race." We are also informed on it that it was "A Maze or Labyrinth; its site was on the summit of a hill near St. Ann's Well, about one mile from Nottingham. It appeared to have been cut out of the turf as a place of exercise. Dr. Deering imagined it more ancient than the Reformation, and made by some priests belonging to St. Ann's Chapel, who, being confined so as not to venture out of sight or hearing, contrived this as a place of recreation. The length of the path is 535 yards. On enclosing the Lordship of Sneinton it was ploughed up. February 27th. 1797." I have no knowledge how long it may have been after this destruction, but another and similar race was afterwards cut or made upon the ground connected with St. Ann's Well, and this I can well remember 67 or 68 years since, and ran its course scores of times before it also was destroyed. I always understood that it was between five and six hundred yards long. As a youth I frequently calculated, after many times running, how much ground I had covered, and occasionally found it to be seven miles.

In Mr. J. P. Briscoe's "Old Nottinghamshire," Vol. I. p. 87, speaking of the more modern race, Mr. Hewson Fussey informs us "that it was not until 1856 that he first saw it and went over it with some juvenile friends; and it was not destroyed for some years afterwards, probably when the old house was pulled down about the year 1860." I am glad to be enabled to give much more definite particulars. In 1873 I went over the race for the last time, for its course ended during the next twelve months. My

friend Mr. S. Colton resided in the house from the spring of 1867 until the autumn of 1873, and during the whole of that time the ground, including the race, was kept in excellent order, and was so transferred at the termination of his tenancy. On numerous occasions whilst residing there he allowed strangers to use the race, and received many visits from members of the Corporation, who expressed their great satisfaction with its condition. His successor, unfortunately, does not appear to have had the same consideration for it, as shortly after he obtained possession he leveled and obliterated the race after it had been there or in the neighbourhood for several centuries. Mr. Fussey also speaks of the race as having been gravelled slightly, and that it was only possible to walk over it, running being out of the question. I may say that I never had such an experience.

In the "Records," vol. iii., p. 75, A.D. 1500, reference is made to Robynhode Well. Deering, on p. 73, intimates that this was the original name for St. Ann's Well, which only acquired the latter title after a chapel was built there which was dedicated to the latter saint, and that by some it was so called in his time (1745). For a great number of years the Mayor, Aldermen, &c., were (except when unforeseen circumstances prevented) in the habit of visiting St. Ann's Well on Blacke or Black Monday (Easter) in their robes, with the waits, drummers, &c. In the "Records," vol. iv., p. 256, A.D. (April) 1601, there is the following: "Goinge to Saint Ane Well. Itt is ordered that the Aldermen, the Councell, and the Cloathing (former Sheriffs and Chamberlaine) shall wayte on Maister Maior on Blake Monday (Easter Monday) yearely to Saint Ane Well, there to spend their money with the Keeper and Woodward: upon payne of everye Alderman making default and not pardoned by the Maior to forfeyt 2s. (equal to 20s. now) everie of the Councell making default to forfeyt 18d. and everie of the Cloathing to forfeyt 12d., being not pardoned by the Maior. And that every of the Aldermen shall spend there with the townes Woodward 2s., and with the Thorney Wodes Keeper at discretion; everye Councellor with the townes Woodward 18d. and with the Keeper in discretion; everie of the Cloathing to spend with the townes Woodward 12d., and with the Keeper at discretion, and that none of them shall carry or send any provision thither." Most certainly, as shown in this extract, the Corporation accepted a position which entailed a little

charge, though as may perhaps soon be shown they still managed to burden the town with a portion of the costs of their outing. Yet this was not all, for as regards the Aldermen at least, according to the next short paragraph in the "Records," they cast off pecuniarily a much greater burden. It says: "Also yt is agreed that the drynkinge and feastinge with the Aldermen att theyr howses on Easter Day by their wholl Wardes shall from hence furthe cease and be no more used in tymes to come."

It was far cheaper to spend two or three shillings on themselves at St. Ann's Well than to feast a large number of their Ward, and especially when it could be arranged for the towne to bear the cost of the wine they drank, &c. It appears to be rather uncertain when the Corporation first instituted the Easter Monday visit to "the Well," though it is incidentally mentioned in the Chamberlain's accounts in A.D. 1569, showing that 4s. was "Peyd to the Weytes for playeing to Saynt Anne Well, the Munday in Ester Weke, before Maister Maire; and of May day." On the same page (133, vol. iv.) there is also another interesting entry which says: "Gevyn in Wyne and Seuger by Mestris Meris (Mayoress) and her systers unto My Lady Clefton and Mestris Harper the 7 of May, 7s. 9d." This, as compared with our present money, would represent from four to five pounds. Can it be doubted that it was a most kind act on the part of the Mayoress and her sisters to give a quantity of wine and sugar for which the towne had paid? It calls to mind a line or two applicable to a similar case, which with a little change may be adopted here when freely rendered as follows: "Mistress Mayoress and her Sisters of their great bounty gave this sugar and wine at the cost of the town with its county." But it will appear to some that the Mayoress and her sisters legally formed no part of the town government. As the Mayor's brethren were the Aldermen (all magistrates then) together with the Coroners, &c., so no doubt the Mayoress's Sisters were their wives or a near female relative representing any of them. On the next page (134) there was another "gift" by the Mayoress and her sisters, of which we have a few more particulars given, namely, "For 3lb. 6oz. of Seuger and a gallond of wyne, which Mestres Merys and hir systers gave unto Mestres Wellnough the 23 of June, 5s. 6d." At this period "Sugar was Sugar" and would probably cost 14d. or possibly a little more per pound, or nearly a penny per ounce, but the present day equivalent would be

about 12s. per pound, therefore there was quite as much or more reason (as regards the cost) for mentioning the sugar than the wine. I have observed in the "Records" on one occasion or more where the cost of sugar was entered as being 16d. per lb.

On 10 April, 1609, "Ytt is agreed that the meetinge att Sainte Ane Well shall hold on Black (Easter) Monday, and the Counsell and Cloathing to be there, and to sytt togeather according to their seniorities and to pay 16d. a man all alyke." This, at that date (1609) would undoubtedly provide an excellent dinner, though no information is given respecting what was included; yet I have little fear in stating that it found no wine and that it is more than probable the town supplied it, and I am strengthened in this belief by the next item I find connected with the feast at the Well, which is on page 58, vol. 4, and as follows:—"For wyne and suger at the Well on Blake Mundaye, 14s. 7d." On March 23, 1621, it was resolved by the Council that "This company are agreed that the former order touchinge the accompaninge Maister Maior to Saint Anne Well shall stand and either to goe or pay, or both." The council do not appear to have been able to frame any rules respecting their attendance at St. Ann's which satisfied them long, and the next entry on 28 March, 1623, again differs from the previous ones, and which I now give:—"Saint Anne Well. The Meting on Blacke Monday to hold according to the ancient custome, but with this addicion, thatt Maister Maior, Alderman and Shreves pay 2s. a piece and all the clothinge and counsell present 18d., and absent 12d."

Three years afterwards (March 30, 1626) a change is again made, for the Council resolved "This Companie are agreed that Maister Maior, Aldermen, Conncell, and cloathing will observe the antient custom of going to Saint Anne Well on Black Monday nexte (Easter) and to pay according to auintent custome, viz., 2s. Maistor Maior, Aldermen, and Coroners; and the Councell and cloathing 18d. a piece, provided that Francis Nixe doe appoynt some honest Woman of credit to have the oversight and ordinge of the Meate and drincke to be spent there, and then as well those absent as present to pay as aforesaid."

It certainly appears that our former local legislators were determined to have their drink cheap when at Saint Ann's Well, for again I will give an extract from the Chamberlain's account of April, 1627, which is, "Item for Wyne and sugar at the Well on blake

(Eastr) Monday, 13s. 4d." This, when compared with our present money would be equal to six or seven pounds, and which these lovers of cheap feasts managed to foist upon the town. The next reference to the meeting at St. Ann's Well is in the "Records," Vol. V., p. 140, A.D. 1630., when after conference the Council "consideringe . . . the contynance laudable, both in the former and the future times, yf the abuses bee taken away; ytt is therefore ordered and agreed that from henceforth the same assembly shall continewe and be held by Maister Maior, Maisters Aldermen, the Coroners, Sheriffs, Councell, and Clothinge as heretofore; and that Maister Maior, Maisters Aldermen, the Coroners, Sheriffs, the Towneclerke, and the Steward shall pay there for themselves and wyfes (whether they have any or not or whether they be present or absent) 2s.; and all the rest of the Clothing and Councell likewise, whether they be present or absent, 18d.; and that every one soe to goe shall geve his attendance on Maister Mayor at his howse and wayte on him both goinge and cominge; and that everie one that have (sic) wyves shall lykewise wyssh them to attend on Mistris Maioris as hath been antiently used; and that if anie of the aforesaid of the Aldermen, Coroners, Sheriffs, Councell, Cloathing, and others shall make defaulte in nott accompaninge or attendinge of Maister Maior unless he or they shall be lycensed by Maister Mayor for the tyme beinge) [he or they] shall pay for everie defaulte 12d. to the use of the pore of Saint Joanes's, over and besydes the rates formerly to be paid for their dynners." There are particulars here which were likely to be sufficient in number to satisfy all, and that this was probably the case is almost decided by the fact that so far as the next 75 years are concerned or until the end of the 5th vol. of "The Records," 1702. There does not appear to be any change in the arrangements generally as then made.

The next resolution by the Council respecting their meeting at St. Ann's Well was on Monday, March 23, 1635. From inference I have no doubt that Easter occurred early in that year, and as with ourselves this year, at the end of March. On p. 172 it is decided by the Council that: "This Companie are agreed in regard to the uncertainty of the weather and the coldness of the season to alter the meetinge att Saint Ann Well from Monday in Easter weeke unto Monday in Whittson weeke; and the same penaltie to be paid for not performinge there

attendance according to the former order in the time of Alexander Staples, Maior, butt this alteration shall not discontynewe the same antient custome for the tyme nowe appoynted for the same." After this date the Council appear to have claimed the right to decide when the meetings should be held, or what arrangements should be made respecting them, for on p. 252, vol. 1, 1647, we are told "It is ordered yat Saint Ann Well shall not bee disposed of hereafter without consent of Maister Maior, ye Aldermen, and Councell, and not by the Maior for ye time being onely as formerly hath bene." I have mentioned sufficient respecting the visits to "the Well" to prove that centuries since it played an important part in the feasting and merry-makings of the Town Council, and no doubt of the town. That the Corporation were good feeders I consider there can be little doubt, and they appear to have been glad to find an excuse for having a feast, as in 1647, when they ordered "the diner to be laid downe at the breaking of the Easteroft hereafter." This was an occasion when I consider it to be undoubted that the town would pay for the wine at least, and probably for the whole of what was consumed.

It will have been observed that I frequently quote from 'The Borough Records,' and, with other things, been enabled to give many appropriate extracts from the Chamberlains' accounts of various payments which they had made for the town, and it is with much regret as regards Vol. 5, and the last which has at present been issued, from the great diminution which has taken place in these accounts as compared with Vol. 4, that on several occasions I have been unable to obtain what should be most interesting notifications of particular payments in relation to what I have written, but which were inserted in the 4th volume as a matter of course. Of this kind of information I believe there is in proportion not more than one-third in Vol. 5 as compared with Vol. 4. Those examining Vol. 5 may expect to find that, excepting for the year 1688, there is no entry of the Chamberlains' accounts for the 50 years—from 1652 until 1702—which is most strange. That many other things are omitted from the Records, in addition to financial matters, appears certain from the fact that, whilst the accounts, &c., for the last 50 years in Vol. 4 fill 276 pages, there are but 166 pages filled during that time in Vol. 5. It is to be hoped that these matters may receive full consideration, and that there may not be any abridgement whatever in other volumes, or things omitted as mentioned,

which are so decidedly interesting. These volumes are issued under the authority of the city or Corporation.

OLD ; NOTTINGHAM :

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XXVI.

In the year 1688 the Corporation were once more pecuniarily in a state of great embarrassment, and that their needs were urgent is fully shown by their taking away three-fourths of the annual stipend allowed to the Mayor. This to the Council was no doubt a momentous question, for it would certainly lessen the number of their carousals, and as good knife and fork men they would deeply regret having to pass such an order. It is self evident that they had pleasure in a well-prepared meal and a cheap one.

At a meeting of the Council held Thursday, July 12, 1688 (see "The Records," vol. v., p. 342), they passed two orders respecting this matter. In the first they say: "It is this day ordered by the unanimous consent of this house that noe publique Feasts shall be hereafter kept by ye Major (Mayor) as formerly by reason of the great debts which ye Towne is in at present." Unfortunately, on this occasion no information appears to have come down to us respecting the amount of the town's indebtedness. The next resolution was as follows: "It is this day ordered, that whereas the late Corporation (this was after the change by Charles II.) did allow the Major (Mayor) £80 per annum for defraying the public charges and Feasts during his Majoratty; it is therefore ordered that whereas the publique Feasts by order aforesaid are taken away, that ye Major hereafter shall have only £20 per annum, payable quarterly for maintaining his Serjeants and defraying his year's charges: this abatement aforesaid is in order yat this Corporation may as soone as possibly may be, gett out of theire great debts which they are at present engaged in; the twenty pounds aforesaid allowed to the Major for his charges shall commence from midsummer last." This I think will be accepted as full proof of the wretched state into which the finances of the town had again fallen and the necessity of economising in all possible cases.

I do not doubt that the Council deeply regretted that the money matters of the town should be in such a wretched state. They acknowledge that a large portion of the money previously paid for the

Mayor's stipend was for defraying not only public charges but "Feasts during his Mayoralty," and the Corporation no doubt in the main composed those attending the Feasts, therefore we may imagine that some moral courage was needed in giving them up for a season. The two orders or resolutions named were passed in July, 1688. I will now mention another, which was passed the next month, namely August, 1688, as follows: "Whereas the Right Noble his Grace the Duke of Newcastle has given a buck to this Corporacion, and the Right Honourable the Earl of Devonshire has given a brace, and whereas there was formerly an order made by this house that there should be noe publike Feasts made at the charge of the Corporacion, yet having received this favour from the said persons of quality it is this day ordered that what shall be expended in making a Feast with the said vension shall be paid by the Chamberlains for the use of the Corporacion, to be allowed them in their Accounts."

This appears to be a case of stomach versus right, and the stomach prevailed, even at the cost of morality. The Corporation showed that they were so unable to resist the temptation of a good meal and a cheap one, with a buck and brace to be devoured, that even the impoverished state of the town when laying this additional charge upon it was as nothing to them if a banquet was in question. Their claim to be entitled good trencher men cannot be denied. I will give one more sample of their feeding ability. It will show that their weakness for good and cheap dinners was not merely during the last two centuries. In the "Records," vol. 3, p. 318, A.D. 1504, there is a noticeable entry as follows:—"Item payd for wyne at the eyting of the venesson that the Kyng gaffe, and for floure and peper and dressing, and howse rome and fewell as it was shewid by a bill 7s." This, four hundred years since, would no doubt be equal to about five pounds at the present time.

In former ages our ancestors belonging to the government of the town betrayed a decided preference for show, with the wearing of coloured cloaks, &c., varying somewhat according to the position occupied, and various matters connected therewith were frequently being considered by the Council to comply with or provide for some passing requirement. The first mention that I have seen in reference to the wearing of gowns by members of the Corporation is in the Charter of Henry VI., A.D.

1448, as recited in the "Records," vol. 2, p. 205, namely, "We have also granted, of our mere motion and certain knowledge aforesaid, and have given license for us, our heirs and successors aforesaid, to the aforesaid present Burgesses of the aforesaid town of Nottingham, and to their successors, and to every other burgess of the same town for the time being that shall be an Alderman of that town, that the Aldermen of the same town for ever for the time being may use gowns, hoods, and cloaks of one suit and one livery, together with furs and linings suitable to those cloaks in the same manner and form as the Mayor and Aldermen of our City of London do use; the Statute of Liveries, of Cloths, and of Hoods, or any other Statute or ordinance heretofore issued notwithstanding."

On page 201 the Charter gives power to the burgesses to elect seven Aldermen who are to hold their office for life unless they be removed at their request or other special cause, and the Mayor must always be chosen from amongst the Aldermen, all of whom were then magistrates. From this there does not appear to have been any difference in livery between the Mayor and the Aldermen unless perhaps by a gold chain of office. In vol. 3, pp. 448-49 in the reign of Henry VII., about A.D. 1500, the Council made various orders respecting the wearing of their cloaks, &c., by the Mayor, Aldermen, Councillors, &c. In the quaint language of the period it commences: "These been the days that the Mayre and his Bredren have used and accustomed of old time to were their clokes and their last livery, and hit is thought that hit shod so continewe to the honour of God and conservation of the gode rule of the towne." Continuing, it is ordered—"First, the said Mayre and his Bredren to were their said clokes and last livery, and all the clothynge (those having served as sheriffs and chamberlains) in likewise on Michaelmas day when the Mayre is chosen, . . . and the drinking with the Mayre and Sheriffs. Also the said Mayre and his bredren to were there said clokes and last livery, and the whole clothynge in lykewyse on the Saturday next after Michaelmas day . . . in likewise on All Hallowes' day, namely, in time of procession, when going; during service at church, &c. The same on Christmas Day, and on 12th day, and Candlemas day, and Pasche or Easter, when in addition they must go in their "clokes," &c., to the sermon in the afternoon.

Respecting twelfth day, I do not doubt that a large proportion of those now living will not remember anything about it, though with the older section of the community the thought of that day may raise a smile in connection with some lively incidents which occasionally occurred a long time back to those intently looking at the varied and interesting matters exhibited sixty to seventy years since in the confectioners' shop windows. (See Hone's *Everyday Book*, Vol. I., page 28). Commencing, as I believe, about the period of 1840 the observance of this day in the manner named with pastry cooks gradually lessened until for forty years or more I think it has entirely ceased, and with it ended the pinning together of the dresses or coat tails of numerous persons, and occasionally the tacking of them to the woodwork of the shop, the consequences of which were accompanied by the merriment of the crowd.

There is an amusing item in the report of the Mikletorn Jury for 1577, where they say—"We do present that the oldermen and the aldermen (aldermen's wives) shall were there apparell as hath bene used of aunsiant costume, one (on) such daies as is usiall and apontyd." According to this, not only were the members of the Corporation to be officially clothed, but some of their wives also at stated times. The Corporation consisted of the Mayor, seven aldermen, two sheriffs, two chamberlains, two coroners, and the common Council men, but there were also such as had filled one of the posts of sheriff or chamberlain, which, with those in office, would probably form a total of nearly twenty. The full number of the Corporation for many years being, I believe, about forty-eight, and afterwards more. In a resolution dated December, 1607, the Council say—"Yt ys agreed that those of ye Councell being commoners shall from tyme to tyme wayte in theyr gownes as other of the Councell do that have bene of the cloathing; and that the order for walking of the Merckett shall be amended in this poynt; and that they of the Councell now being commoners shall have gownes before next Assizes upon payne of every one offending herein to forfeit 10s."—which in our present money would be equivalent to £5, and possibly rather more.

On various occasions the Town Waits accompanied the Mayor and Corporation in the processions playing their instruments. Under such circumstances it will not be surprising that a little extra care and expense was bestowed upon them. This will be seen,

in "The Records," Vol. 3, p. 393, A.D. 1541 (see Chamberlains' accounts), which mentions the item, "for the Weytes oheynes (chains, 3), weying xix. ounces, £3 7s. 2d., which sum compared with our present money is equal to £30. I, of course, suppose the chains to have been silver, but judging by recent money value they cost an enormous proportionate sum. In the Chamberlains' account for 1572 there are two items, namely, (1) Payed unto the Weytes for their fee, £3; (2) Paid to John Curson for their three lyvereys, 33s. 9d. This, compared with present times, would probably be equal to about £18. In 1614, p. 324, the Bellman petitions the Council that he "may be in liverie in the townes clothe," Signed William Halle. On page 327, A.D. 1615, the Chamberlains in their account show that they paid 16s. for a coat for the Bellman of St. Peter's, though just before there is an item of £3 18s. for the (4) coats for the Town Waits. When properly considered this appears an enormous sum to expend for such a purpose and more than the cost of the coat for the bellman. As compared with modern times it would amount to nearly £8 for each of the four coats. The only excuse for this unreasonable payment on the part of the Corporation would, I consider, be their great partiality for show, also that to a great degree the Waits in processions, &c., would walk first, and therefore they must be bedizened and wear a silver chain of office, &c., &c., at a heavy cost to the town.

On page 277, A.D. 1606, those of the Corporation without "skarlett gounes" are presented or reported. The Chamberlains in their account for 1626-27 give more particulars respecting the coats for the Waits. They say, "Paied for 6 yards and a halfe of Stamell for the Wayts' coats at 13s. 4d. per yard £4 6s. 8d." And "for taffetie to face their coats 8s. 8d." This for the coats is 17s. 4d. more than the cost a few years before, though if it be noticed there is no charge made for anything except the material. The next entry is: "Paid for a coate for the bellman, 14s. 0d." This charge is 2s. less than before, but here the perfect coat is charged for, therefore the material only for each Wait's Coat appears to have cost twice as much as the finished coat of the bellman, and to be equivalent to about £9 each in our present money.

In 1628 several of the Corporation were fined for not wearing their gounes when going to Church. On p.p. 169-70, (I.), September 17, 1634, there was a resolution that: "This companie are agreed that

all the Aldermen and Cloathing shall wayte on Maister Maior to Walk the fayre on Saint Matthew's day nexte in their Scarlett gownes; and this order for the grace of the towne to have contynewance for ever." On Wednesday, November 26, 1634 (same year), it was also ordered, "Thatt everie one of the Cloathing shall in their Scarlett gownes, and overie of the other gownemen shall duely and decently attend the Maior in his walk of the fayre on the fayre day. And lykewise that the Scarlett gownemen of the Cloathing shall come to the Church on the fifth day of November yearly to geve God thancks for the greate deliverance from the powder-treason, which day is commanded by Act of Parliament to be celebrated upon payne to everyone not wearinge their Scarlett gownes and other gownes those two days to forfeyte for such theire neglect for everie tyme 12d. to be levyed by distresse and sale of the offender's goods in case they refuse or neglect to pay the saied penalty of 12d." There is a memorandum saying "thatt Maister Maior hath received already for fynes for not wearinge gown 4s. 2d. paid into the cashbox."

In 1648 there was another order respecting the wearing of gowns, the penalty for non-observance being 3s. 4d. In 1647 It was "agreed that all the coting and counsell shall weare theire black gowns at the assises and after, as usually they have heretofore done." In 1652 the Corporation must have calmed down to a large degree, for they ordered that "This company taking gownes into consideration, the major parte thinke fitte nott for to have gownes worne generally as before." There is an amusing paragraph on p. 282, A.D. 1654, where the Corporation resolve that "This Companie doe approve of Mistres' Maiors' and Mistresses Aldresses (Aldermen's wives) request touchinge a liverie cloake for Maister Hounfrey Greaves thatt waits on them, so that the trimming be nott gandy but civell." In this instance the recommendations of the ladies appear to have had some influence. It was then ordered that the waits should have forty shillings a year for their wages, and that they should have cloaks every second year and not coats. In January, 1655, p. 285, it appears that one of the waits pawned his cloak for 20s., which was "to be remembered."

In September, 1655, the Corporation decided that they would again wear gowns, according to ancient custom, and all were to be ready to be worn before

the Assizes, or a penalty of £5 was imposed for every default. In 1690, May 19th, p. 364, it was "Ordered that the Major (Mayor) and Aldermen shall always come into Councell in their Gownes and the Councilmen in their hanging Coates; if they do not they shall forfeit the *summe* of twelve pence." In 1698, November 22nd, p. 399, the Corporation say that "Itt is this day agreed that if any person or persons members of this house shall nott appeare in their gownes at the tymes appointed or within a quarter of an hower after, having no licence or excuse, shall forfeit one shilling to the use of the Corporation." I believe this to be the first occasion to be observed in the "Records" where one shilling is directly entered in that form, as it was invariably mentioned as twelve pence or 12d., though if double that amount or more it would be 2s. or 3s.

OLD NOTTINGHAM: ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XXVII.

In my second communication I mentioned Toll-house Hill, and incidentally remarked that there was good reason for its name, as might afterwards be shown. It is questionable whether there is any knowledge respecting the date when a toll-house was first built there. The earliest reference I have seen is respecting its ruinous state in the "Records," A.D. 1640, where the Mickleton Jury say: "We request the Toll-house may either be repaired or taken down." And the order was that it should be "taken down." On December 8th, 1648, the Corporation "Ordered, when the weather is seasonable, the Centry house at Hockley to be removed by the Chamberlains to the Chappell bar for a house for the Sheriffe's Sergeants to take toll in, when it is removed; then to bee rented." In the account of the Chamberlains early next year (1649) it is shown that William Smalley built a new "Toll house at Chappell Barre." From what is here mentioned it is evident that there must have been a toll-house many years before 1640; whilst the old one at that date had become so dilapidated as to make it necessary that it should immediately be pulled down. On page 121 Deering refers to it as "Toll Hill," and for information respecting its discontinuance we shall probably have to wait until the 6th Volume of the Borough Records" is issued.

In my fifth article I refer to Old Glasshouse-street, which until 1848 (and probably after), according to an old map, was the name for the first end of what is now called Southwell-road, and in its length fifty years since would reach at least as far as the houses on the Nottingham side of the road, then extended, and to those which now form the southern side of Sneinton Market. In the old Book of Account of 130 years since, to which I have recently referred, there is entered as follows: "Widow Pilkington, for the Scavenger's fee payable 22nd March and 22nd September, £52. Same for an incroachment by a house on the waste near the Glass-house in Carter-gate, 2s." Here is evidence that there was a Glass-house in Carter-gate 130 years since, and where Carter-gate ended Old Glasshouse-street commenced, but for a number of years there were two Glass-

house-streets in the town, which was an egregious blunder on the part of some wiseacres who, unfortunately for the town, were in authority many years since, though deficient in ability as regarded the duties of their position, or they could not have acted with such senselessness.

To distinguish the two streets the one near Sneinton, and the first to be named, was called Old Glasshouse-street. It derived its title from the glass-works near, and it was thoroughly misleading to afterwards give another street a similar name. In 1689, Vol. V., the Mickletorn Jury report Christopher Wood for stoppage a common issew (drain) in ye bottom of ye Glasshouse Lane. This undoubtedly was near the glass-works and 213 years since, which is much more than double the time the other thoroughfare has been called Glasshouse-street. With all except my elderly fellow-citizens there is little or no knowledge left of Old Glasshouse-street now, or that there ever was more than the one abutting upon Lower Parliament-street, but to show the confusion which the double naming of streets will cause I will say that quite recently I happened to see an account or report of what was said to have occurred in Glasshouse-street many years back, with the idea and inference that it was in the present street of that name, whereas it was in the old street, and without doubt before the newer street was formed or known as such, but the writer was, comparatively speaking, a young man, and therefore, with such pitfalls prepared for him, but little to be blamed for his mistake.

In Vol. 5 of the "Records," page 448, in reference to Glasshouse-lane the editor calls it Glasshouse-street (?) This undoubtedly is utterly misleading, for it was near to the glass-works, Carter-gate. I have in several instances spoken plainly respecting omissions, &c., in the "Records" when I thought it right to do so, but in this case the blame should almost entirely be laid upon the ignoramuses who allowed two streets to have similar titles and years afterwards renamed the oldest of them. It was a repetition of what occurred respecting the alteration of Pennyfoot-lane, or row, in connection with Pennyfoot Style, for the two are with most persons mixed up together (see article 5), including the editors of the "Records" as mentioned previously, though they only fell into traps most unthinkingly left for them in past times by some of those in au-

thority when changing and confusing names. I consider it to be fifty years, or possibly a little more, since Old Glasshouse-street was entitled "Southwell-road," which may have been before either of the editors of the "Records" knew about any streets.

Our ancestors, going back several hundred years, appear to have been almost as much troubled with "the drink question" as ourselves in recent times. In 1511—Vol. 3, p. 106—an account is rendered showing that £9 16s. 11d. had been received for fines in court, and of this £2 16s. 2d. was from "tipplers" and brewers. It will be better to say that for many years a tippler was the keeper of a drinking shop, to which our beerhouse would be the nearest equivalent, and many, if not all, of them brewed their own beer. There were then few, if any, brewers of the sort we have in these times. It may here be seen how we have acquired our word "tippler," though now with quite a different meaning to what was formerly the case. Webster says a tippler is "one who habitually indulges in the excessive use of spirituous liquors." The seller of the beer or liquor as such now has nothing whatever to do with it in its old meaning, for according to circumstances it is the drinker and not the seller who is now a tippler. In olden times there were continual reports respecting them. The first which I have at present noticed was in 1522—Vol. 3, p. 356—as follows:—"Item we preysent Thomas Stabollvs for sellyng alle (ale) a boff they Meyry's pryse" (above the Mayor's price). That is the price which had been fixed by the Mayor, which at this time would not be more than a penny per quart, and this nearly four hundred years since would almost be equivalent to a shilling in recent times, though there were many complaints to the Mayor and magistrates that a greater charge was made than a penny per quart.

The fixing of a price applied also to bread, of which there were numerous complaints of its not being complied with, and of more being often charged. In 1589 various presentments were made at the Sessions, and one is "Also we request that there may be no alehouses nor typling houses, but such as shall be sufficient and of good report, and that they be bound for the good behavyour of their house, and that all such parsons (persons) as shall resort to their houses, take their rest in dew tyme at the nyght uppon a paynne" In the "Records," vol. 4, p. 218, William Alestre is presented "for typling

unbone (unbound, unlicensed) and himself a swearer and a drunkard." Fined 5s., equal to £3, or nearly so, now. There were a number of reports of a similar kind in most years, but in 1615, p. 336, vol. 4, the Mickleton Jury in their presentments give the names of more than sixty persons who tippled, or brewed, without licences. They were fined 3s. 4d. each, or about 30s. of our money. There must have been undue laxity somewhere, or in a town as small as Nottingham was in 1615 it would not have been possible for sixty persons to be breaking the law in the form mentioned. In 1626 Robert Tailor is presented to the Sessions for tipping without a licence, and was fined 20s., or about £8 of our money. The same year Maister Revell was fined 20s. for "bruing" without a licence.

Deering on pp. 12-13 gives a list of streets, lanes, courts, rows, &c., in the town, together with the number of persons residing in them in the year 1739. He tells us that "This account of the number of souls in the town of Nottingham was taken in the year 1739, not computing the amount of them by allowing a certain number in each house one with another, but gathering the exact number of men, women, and children in every individual house or tenement." In this way there appears to have been about 10,340 inhabitants, but allowing 300 more for hospitals, workhouse, and prison, with 360 for the chance of some being overlooked, that will make the population 11,000 (eleven thousand) in 1739: but during 1615, or 120 years earlier, it might probably be about seven or eight thousand, though for the sake of argument I will consider it to have been 9,000, and that in addition to the 61 tiplers, &c., without a licence, we add thereto proportionately only 70 who had licences, it will be found that there were 130 drinking places in the town, or one for every 69 inhabitants, which all will concede was more than ample, and a proportion no doubt as large, or larger, than what is the case in modern times.

At that period the word or phrase "testotaller" would have had no meaning with the people, though it would have been better for the town if many of those in it had for conscience sake systematically abstained from the drinking of intoxicants, but as I have fully explained, the town government and council of the period set a most pernicious example. In the "Records," vol. 4, p. 325, A.D. 1614, in a Presentment at the Sessions it is said "We request that your worshippes wyll take some order wythe all the

alewyse in this towne, for we thinke that never an alewyse dothe as hir husband is bound to." Before the year had run there was another complaint when it was said "Wee present thatt ther is noe refformacion concerning the infinitt number of all (ale) houses within this towne considering yat the ben (they've been) continually spoken of both att Assises and Sessions and yet nothing amended concerning the same." This makes it appear very probable that in my estimate I have not exceeded the number of public-houses in the town in the year 1615. In a report of the Micklethorne Jury for 1587 they say "We present the alle (ale) houses in Carter-gate, namly, Bartle Granby (4d.) and Nycholas Walseer (4d.) because they are not able to lodge strangers nor mete to be alehouses." Bonds were occasionally required for the keeping of good order by tipplers in their houses, and also as in the cases of Thomas Rogers and John Wirehorn, see "Records," vol. 4, p. 59, February, 1590, where the first is bound in £20 that he shall not keep a tippling house or victualing house, and the latter, who was an innholder, is "bound in £40 that he will not bold any inn or tippling house, and that he shall appear at the next Assises. (Tippling house, a beerhouse.)"

On various occasions during his reign (1603-1625) James I. came to the town, and under the circumstances I am quite inclined to believe that he was not a desirable visitor, for proportionately the costs were large and the benefits nil. At a meeting of the Council, July 10th, 1612, the following is extracted from the minutes:—"The company debating upon the necessary charge to be imployed about his Maiestie's entertainment, it is thought convenyent that there shall be £150—borrowed upon interest (10 per cent. at that period)—till the towne shall be able to paye ytt." Continuing further on, it is said: "Ytt is agreed by all the voices marked with 'idem' (the same or ditto) that Saint George Close shall be mortgaged to Maister Stables for a hundreth and tenn powndes (the £10 being for interest) payable at a year's end; which money is to furnishe the towne's wants att this tyme about the entertaynment of his Maiestie. Ytt is also agreed by all this company present that £40 more shall be borowed of Maister Alderman Freeman for one whole yeare, and he to have the far Dovecote Close in the possession of John Freeman and Huge Varden in mortgage for the same, redeemable upon the payment of £44 att a yeare's end. Whereunto Maister Freeman hath assented. And this money is lykewyse for the cause afore-

sayd."

Maisters Freeman and Hill were deputed to go to London, "and by their discretions to provide a present for his Maiestie, eyther by plate or in gould as they shall thinck fyttest by conference and inquirie of others." The matter was left to their sagacity, and they appear to have carried it out very satisfactorily. At a meeting of the Council, August 3rd, 1612, respecting the King's entertainment we are told "That this day before this company Maister Freeman and Maister Hill made theyr account for theyr London voyage last. And here they brought in 3 fayer gilt boolls waying 59oz. qtr. at 6s. 8d. the oz. comes to £19 15s., and another waying 61oz. at 6s. 8d. comes to £20 12s., a 3rd waying 63oz. 3-quarters at 6s. 8d. comes to £21 5s., in all £61 12s. And for their horse hyer and rydinge chardges and other expenses £7 18s., and for a box 3s. 4d., total £69 13s. 4d. Receyved by them att London of Maister Stables £100—£60 (that is £60 out of the £100) receyved, that came for the fyne of Everton toll lease £20—total £80. So remayneth in their handes of this £10 6s. 8d., which they have here payed to Maister Mayor."

His Majesty came to Nottingham, and "staid one nyght onely (?) att Thurland House." This was on Wednesday, 17th August, 1614. It was arranged that he should be received (Vol. 4, pp. 317, 18) by "forty of the Clothing in Scarlett, forty in Black gownes, and forty in clokes with holberties. And they to be strictly charged to be redy in their best apparell and to be att the spice chambers by X of the clock in the morninge. Sir Henrie Pierrepont, the Recorder, arranged to 'provide for some short speech.' In fees, &c., £27 19s. 3d. was given to the King's servants, coachmen, footmen, porters, waiters, trumpeters, clerk of the market, gentlemen ushers, daily waiters (£3 6s. 8d.) grooms, pages, &c." They were, no doubt, glad when the King left the town, and that his stay was for one day only.

Two years afterwards the King paid another visit to the town, when his reception was arranged in a similar way to what was formerly the case (see "Records," Vol. IV., pp. 243-45). The names are given of the 40 in Black gownes, and also of those in Cloakes and Holbardes. Twenty-seven were also appointed for the night watch whose names are given. The King again stopped only one night. He certainly was always eager for money, and on occa-

sions asked for subsidies. In 1608-9, February 9, from Whitehall, "a letter was sent from the Lords of the Privy Council to the Commissioners of the Subsidy in Nottingham, sending a record of what had been raised for previous subsidies in Nottingham and exhorting them to raise the present subsidy to something like the amount of the earlier subsidies." Eighteen days after there was a warrant from the Commissioners of Subsidies for Nottingham for the collection of a subsidy.

In the Chamberlain's account for September 19th, 1619, respecting the son of James I., there is the following entry: "Item to present the Prince, 22 peeces, and for a purse (total) £24 4s. 0d." This, at the date given, would represent by far the greater part of £200 in our times; and with the subsidies, the gifts, &c., &c., at the King's visits, the driving of all strangers from the town, together with the constant charges for feasting and very numerous gifts of wine, sugar, &c., by the Mayor and Corporation to many different persons, including what they ate and drank themselves and charged to the town it would be strange if the effects were not felt in an unpleasant way, and most prejudicial to the town's prosperity.

In 1634, August, Charles I. visited Nottingham and stopped five nights. On this occasion the Corporation borrowed £200 of William Nix, Alderman, "for the intertainment of the Kinge and Queene's Majesties." Plate costing £68 was presented to the Kinge and Queene. Maister Lightfoot, the Usher of the Free School, undertook to deliver a speech to the King and Queen at their coming to Nottingham, and for this purpose he was supplied "with a sute, cloake, hatt, stockings, garters, shoues (shoes), and other accoutterments" costing £8 6s. 0d., which would probably be equivalent to more than £50 of our present money. In 1642, July the Council decided to give £50 and a purse to Prince Charles; Maister Chadwick to prepare a speech. The purse cost 35s., and others items increased the total payments to £59 3s. 9d.

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XXVIII.

In my communication of April 18th (25) and the last paragraph I remark upon what appear to be serious omissions in Vol. V. of the "Borough Records," and that 1688 is the only year in the last fifty included in it when any extracts are given from the Chamberlain's accounts. It is respecting these that I desire to make a few more remarks. The volume includes the period 1625-1702, or 77 years. In the first 27 years there are 276 pages of matter included in Vol. V. (without the introduction, &c.), and on twelve occasions many extracts or items are given of the Chamberlains' expenditure, yet in the last fifty years there are but 166 pages of matter, and of one case alone (1688) where any items are given of money paid away. During the last fifty years of Vol. IV. copies of the Chamberlains', accounts are given on (21) twenty-one occasions. Why is this changed? The misfortune is that these omissions are made during a critical period in the history of the country and town, and chiefly during the reigns of Charles II. and James II. The introduction to Vol. V. very properly gives us an idea of what we may expect to find in it or, as the case may be, of some matters omitted; but, though I have looked through it, I have observed no reference to the Chamberlains' accounts or reason given why the extracts from them have been so unduly circumscribed. It is much to be hoped that even now a full account of the omitted Chamberlains' expenditure may be given as an addendum to Vol. VI. of the "Records," or in some other suitable form, which many will undoubtedly be glad to have carried out, from being so intimately connected with the government and history of the town.

In the account of money paid by the Chamberlains in 1688 the entries are surprisingly sparse, there being only 21 items, although 35 years had passed without any reference whatever to them. It is to this one lot of extracts alone that we are at present confined for the fifty years mentioned, but, few as they are, it is astonishing in what a large proportionate number of cases (eight) the expenditure is personal to some or all of the Corporation. There is a charge of £5 Os. 9d. for the Mayor and Aldermen

(total seven) visiting the Duke of Newcastle, "besides coach hire." Then 12s. 4d. for Master Lambert and Master Atkinson for their charge to the Duke, by the Mayor's order. Then Master Borraddell, Master James, and Master Cooke's horses, and charge for going to Lambley, 6s. Master Johnson's bill of £9 5s. 1d. is paid "by order of the Mayor, for ale, beer, and other conveniences at a feast at his house (? an inn, no hotels then) of the Bucks that came from the Earle of Devonshire." John Newcomb was paid 2s. 6d. for sea-fish, and Cooke Brammar's bill was 15s. 3d. for what he laid out at that time. Finally, for wine and meat bought by Master Cooke £4 15s. 9d. was paid by the Mayor's order.

The old Corporation certainly delighted in these opportunities of regaling themselves, but on this occasion, when there were bucks in question (at least two), together with other desirable viands, I am thoroughly of opinion that the feasting lasted not less than two days, but perhaps more. The total amount charged for it to the town (exclusive of the bucks) was £14 18s. 7d., which is equivalent to about £75 of our modern money, and proves the eminent ability of our ancestors to use a knife and fork, and especially, as in this case, when an extra good feed and a cheap one was in question. There is one more item and the eighth out of 21, which has reference to the Council itself. It is true that the amount is small, being 2s. only, but by inference it is important and proves how very desirable it is that an arrangement should certainly be made by the editor whereby the Chamberlains' accounts during the 50 years mentioned shall yet be published in some convenient form to enable the town to judge of the proceedings of the Corporation even in an increased degree respecting their expenditure, but certainly with no less information than what is supplied in the best of the previous volumes. The item is as follows: "Paid to Joseph Worsopp a bill for carriage of wine to Wollerton, to Sir Francis Willoughby's, for the use of the late Corporation, 2s." It will be perceived that this has reference to a previous "feed," the payment for which it is impossible to doubt would be found entered in one of the Chamberlains' preceding accounts, of which, with many others which are apparently ignored, it is important we should for the 50 years yet have full information. What was the cost of the wine sent to Wollaton? How much was paid to take the Corporation there and bring them home? As "sugar

was sugar" then, how much was sent and what did it cost? We obtain all this information largely in Vol. IV. of the "Records" in other cases, but not in Vol. V. Why?

I will now refer to a short paragraph in Vol. V., p. 335, A.D. 1694, where we are told, "It is this day ordered by the unanimous consent of Master Mayor and his brethren, and the Councell of the said Towne, that a Banquett to the value of fourty shillings and no more; and also 3 gallons of Canary, 3 gallons of white wine, and 3 gallons of Clarett, and 2 sugar loaves be presented by this Corporacion to the Right Honourable the Earle of Rutland, &c." We have information here respecting what the Corporation proposed to do, but at times there was a considerable difference shown when the particulars were entered in the Chamberlains' account—and possibly there might be in this case—between the proposal and the accomplished fact, but such unaccountable omissions for so many years make any reference or comparison impossible.

In Vol. V. of the "Records," pp. 389-90, A.D. 1695, it may be gathered that King William III. would shortly visit Nottingham and some interesting particulars are given. At a meeting held November 2, the Council "Ordered that His Majesty be met and attended at the outmost parts of this Towne, and soe be conducted into the Towne on horsebacke, To present this Majestye with a purse of 100 guineys, which are now at 30s. a guiney; that a speech be made to his Majestye by the Towne Clarke, and that his Majestye shall likewise be presented with a banquet and wyne to the value of £40 at the 'New Inne' or 'White Lyon'; and that Master Alderman Salmon, Master Alderman Lenland, Master Wingfeild, Master Briggs, and Master Woolhouse assist the Chamberlyns in this matter; that Master Alderman Trigg and Master Coroner Greaves take care of the banquet." That the Corporation as a body would rejoice in such an opportunity for a first-class feast and a cheap one we have full evidence in previous communications.

In reference to the hundred guineas which were ordered to be presented to the King it was at a time when gold in England was at a great premium, and the country at that period did not occupy the prominent position which is now the case, nor were the different countries or money markets nearly so sensitive respecting the rise and fall in the value of bullion in each or any of them as now prevails, for at the time that guineas were costing thirty shillings

each in England (probably the highest price on record), "pieces (of gold) of equal weight and fineness could be purchased in Holland for twenty-two shillings." An Act of Parliament reduced their value to twenty-six shillings, but such arbitrary enactments caused very great confusion. It was found that on the Continent gold then bore a value as 15 to 1 of that of silver. At the present time it would probably be almost 35 to 1. "Guineas sold for 22s. 6d., January 3, 1810; and publicly sold for a pound note and seven shillings." (Index of Dates.)

In "The Records," Vol 5, p. 363, A.D. 1690, there is an amusing and rather peculiar paragraph as follows:—"It is this day ordered that whereas three pewter dishes, and twelve plates, of this towne-pewter, were lent to the Right Honorable the Earl of Devonshire's service when in this towne, at the coming in of the Princess of Denmarke, and was lost, though Master Langford, the then Major (Mayor), tooke all the care he could about it, the loss shall be the towne's, and Master Langford discharged of them." In "The Records" there is frequent reference to the town's pewter, and orders that it should not be lent or used except by the Corporation, for they undoubtedly suffered severely either by damage to the pewter or loss of numerous articles belonging thereto. Plates and dishes of this metal could occasionally be seen sixty years since ranged on shelves, and especially in the country districts, but for such purposes as those mentioned it has long ceased to be used.

On page 364 there is a copy of a resolution of the Council about racing as follows:—"Whereas the Gentlemen in the Country are desirous that this Corporation (May, 1690) would raise money to purchase a piece of plate to be run for at the horse-race, as formerly hath been; and whereas Master Christopher Renolds hath in his hands four pounds two shillings that was left of a former horse race; **therefore this House being willing to gratifie the said Gentlemen in their request, do consent, that if Master Rennolds will bring in his moneys there should care be taken for a piece of plate.**"

In May, 1693, there appears to have been a visitation by the Archbishop of York, and the Councill resolved that it should be attended "by the Mayor, Aldermen, Coroners, Sherreffes, Common Councill, and Chamberlyns, and such others as the Mayor (Arthur Riccards) shall think fitt to take with them; and that the said Arch Bishopp shalbe presented by

the Corporation with a banquet of about forty shillings value, and with three gallons of sacke, three gallons of clarett, and three gallons of white wyne, att his Grace's coming to the Towne att his lodgings." From the want of the Chamberlains' accounts as mentioned no further particulars are available. Full evidence has been produced to prove that from their great experience and constant junketings the Corporation, according to the position and influence of those to be (nominally) entertained, were enabled to estimate within a trifle the cost of a feast. In 1693, November, a movement was made by the Corporation to commence the manufacture of woollens in the town, whereas in former years some one who desired to set up in that trade was compelled by them to leave the town because he was not a burgess.

In 1698 the question was mooted of building a County Hall in the Market-place, and at a meeting of the Council on Monday, October 10th, 1698, it was "Ordered that Francis Salmon, Alderman; Thomas Collin, Alderman; Master Joseph Briggs, Master Francis Armstrong, and Master John Reynolds doe veiw and measure a parcel of ground near the Markett Wall in order to retorne answer to several gentlemen about their proposalls of building a County Hall, and that they, with Master Mayor, doe treat with them about the same." As nothing further appears to have been said about such a building being erected, we have in recent times much cause for thankfulness that so large an open space was allowed to come down to us undiminished in size when it is so greatly needed both there and in other places from the immensely increased population and business of the towne, and the centre for the tram lines.

Respecting the races, it was ordered on Friday, June 16th, 1699, "That the Chamberlyns doe pay five pounds towards a plate to be run for upon Nottingham and Basford Lings at the next horse race." From the name here given of the place for the races I consider there is little room for doubt that it was near or upon the ground which was recently occupied by the old Race Course upon the Forest. This appears to be proved by what is mentioned in vol. 5, p. 41, lines 17-24, 1675. It is in respect to a claim made and proved by the town that it had (by Charters, &c.) forestal rights. In the argument it is mentioned that the Mayor and Burgesses claim for themselves and their successors their ancient rights in and upon a certain waste called 'Not-

tingham Lings,' otherwise 'Basford Lings,' lying and being within the precincts and liberties of the town of Nottingham aforesaid." The waste (ground) here mentioned was undoubtedly what is now called Nottingham Forest, for it was (in 1675) waste land and it is on the Basford side of the town yet, though having the name of Basford Lings, as well as Nottingham Lings. We are told that it was "within the precincts and liberties of the town of Nottingham."

With this information to guide us it certainly appears safe to assert as a fact that when reference is made to "The Lings" it is the old name for Nottingham Forest, and that is the ground intended to be described or understood. The top end of Lingdale (afterwards the Bowling Alley) reached to the top of the Lings, thus of old giving the name to much the largest of the two dales (Lingdale), and yet in vol. 3, p. 473, "The Lings" are mentioned as being "In Larkdale," and in vol. 4, p. 439, "The Lings" are termed "A portion of the 'Larkdales'" (plural?), and the reader is referred to vol. 3, and though there does not appear to be any mention whatever of Larkdale at any time previously in the volume, we are told that Lark Dale was formerly called Lingdale, whereas to the careful reader it must be decidedly evident that its former name was "Wrendale." (See vol. 1 for that name.) The editor of vol. 5 follows the course observed or taken by the editor of the four preceding volumes and says on page 439: "The Lings—A portion of the Larkdales" (plural again), though there was only one dale with that name, and the Lings or Lingdale were never any portion of Larkdale, for its position and conformation rendered it thoroughly impossible, and without full proof such statements are not only valueless and misleading, but should never have been made. It would be the case of a hawk swallowing an eagle.

Many elderly persons are still left who remember the two dales as they were in their normal state, namely Wrendale, afterwards Lark Dale, and Lingdale, afterwards the Bowling Alley; full fifty years since, and before any building operations took place near them. (Respecting the Arboretum it is 51 years since, or in 1851, when building commenced). It is impossible for any one unless more than 60 years of their own knowledge to give full and reliable particulars respecting the dales, and I believe the two editors of "The Records" to be considerably younger,

therefore prudence would suggest that care should be taken before statements are made respecting matters which may be well remembered by some, but probably not by themselves.

In "The Records," vol. 4, p. 263, A.D. 1602, there is the copy of a petition from the Bowers and Fletchers (at this time dying industries) to the Mickletorn Jury for the repair of the Town Butts. They say "Wee whose names be under written doe presente unto you Maister Martine James, foreman of the Middleterne, and the rest of your fellowe jurey, the decayed buttes at the Chapple Barre; the which buttes hath been usually belonginge to this towne of Nottingham tyme out of mynde; the which hath not been repayred this eight yeres or there upon, the which said butts beinge decayed is a great hindrance and an undoing to us poor men beinge flechers and boyeres of this said towne of Nottingham: in these regards we would desire you all to have consideration hereof. (Signed) Nicholas Sheppard, William Burditt, boyere." The flechers here mentioned were makers of arrows, and the boyere a maker of bows, and they naturally wished to infuse more life into their callings, but the times were against them; firearms were then getting much more used and bows and arrows much less in demand, and continually decreasing for years until practically none were asked for. At the little village of Isley Walton, on the Ashby turnpike, two miles beyond Castle Donington, there is a house or two on which the information is given by letters cut in stone that they belong to the Bowers' Company of London.

OLD NOTTINGHAM: ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XXIX.

In these days of great alterations connected with many streets and roads in the city and greater changes in contemplation, it will be interesting to refer to the demolition of Parliament-row and the widening of Lower Parliament-street, which occurred in 1884; but specially in relation to the first erection of property on that site. Here, I believe, occurred the first great alteration in that street, and fortunately it was when property and land were rather less in value than at present, though, as I propose to show, still much in excess of what was once the case regarding that strip of land, which, according to the 'Records,' was first built upon in the year 1624.

On January 26th, 1624-5 the Corporation decided that "This companie are agreed that Thomas Jackson shall have the ground on the Backside (Parliament-street), upon the towne wall, nowe builded on, in fee simple, to him and to his heirs for ever, for £6 13s. 4d." (£ VI. XIII. IV.) Compared with present money this would probably represent from £60 to £70. It is now 278 years since the Corporation sold the ground, and 260 years after that date they repurchased it at a cost for the site alone of more than fifty times what they received for it; but as the buildings on it (some of which were good) must be cleared away, the whole of the cost would then be saddled upon the land alone, and to obtain it I believe the town would have to pay, together with making the road, &c., but little if anything short of two hundred times the value of what was received for it in 1624-5, and possibly more. The ground is mentioned as being upon the towne wall, which if not literally correct is no doubt approximately so, for from what I observed of the wall when it was exposed for a week or two during the work of cutting across the street for the Great Central Railway, I consider that Parliament-row would just be clear of it on the north side, and therefore over the town ditch.

In former times, from information which has come down to us, it is made to appear as though the salt which was required for the town had to be obtained through the Council, for by a resolution of October

25th, 1608, they say, "Ytt is agreed that the towne's salt shall be delivered to the Chamberlaynes by waight, and they to exchange the same by Maister Maior's direction." This system does not accord with our present notions of business, though it is but one case out of many with which we should probably disagree with our ancestors. In the Chamberlaynes' accounts, 1572, several noticeable items are mentioned. One is "Gevyn to the Justices of Assyse in Len'on (Lent) 2 gallondes of wyne and 2lb. of sewgar, 5s. 2d., and gevyn more to the said Justices on the Wednesday, when Maister Maire and his brethren did breke ther fast wyth them, 2 gallondes of wyne and 2lb. of seuger, 5s. 2d." These two items at that date (1572) would represent with us in recent times about £7. Gifts to judges are no doubt open to question, both as regards the giver and the receiver. Another item is in wyne and seuger gevyn at the marvadge of Maister Gregory doghter 12 of October, 16s. 8d. At the same date we are told that the Mayor and his brethren went to dine at Clifton 'in Christmas laste,' and they caused to be carried there '3 pottles of claret wyne and one pottle of muscadine' (muscadel), and this with gifts to servants, &c., cost the town 15s. 10d. Two items to modern folk sound singular (1) Gevyn to the prisoner that wase in the Bars (most probably Chapel Bar, the gateway and rooms, not the street) so long, and also had his eyres (ears) cutt at his gate (going) away 5s." The second is "Payd Bate for takyng of Cranwell downe of the jebytt 12d." (gibbet). Punishments such as these were not uncommon three centuries since.

In the Chamberlains' account for 1572 is a strange item when considered under modern circumstances. It is "Payd to Rychard Welch and Thomas Reve for 10 wethers (sheep) that wase gevyn unto the Erle of Rutland £4 1s." Possibly these sheep might be fattened, but whether so or not it appears a curious present to go from the town to the country, but no doubt the Council had an eye upon the future, and would if possible "take out" the gift with interest afterwards. The Corporation not only gave wine and sugar on special occasions to those connected with the Corporation or engaged in matters which concerned the town, but they also appear in many instances to have burdened it with a portion of the cost of festivities belonging to their friends—of which I will give two whose names I do not see connected with the Corporation. In the Chamberlains' account for 1572 is the following:—"Payd

for wyne and seuger that wase gevyn at the moryadg of Maister Askew and Mestres Pare 6s. 8d.,” or three pounds of our present money. No doubt some of the Council would drink a good portion. The next is a much more peculiar case when some boys came home from a distance to see their mother; it is not much in amount, but entirely uncalled for as regards the town. The entry is as follows:—
 “Item payd for a gallond of wine and a half, and a pound of seuger that Maister Maire had to Mestres Goodwyn when her souns were cum frome London.”
 No doubt, as in many cases given, the wine would then cost 8d. per gallon and the pound of sugar 1s., total 2s., of which the equivalent at the present time would be about one pound. John Gregory was the name of the Mayor who caused this wine and sugar to be given so unbecomingly.

From information which has come down to us the Mayor and Corporation appear to have been frequently entertained with things, which we should now consider as being of the most ordinary and undesirable character, though proportionately they paid well for it. Respecting animals shown to them, one was an ape, another is mentioned as a strange beast, but I wish to notice what can scarcely be called music, though often paid for, and that is the town drum and its use. In the Chamberlains' account for 1541 there is a charge entered of 12d. paid “to Dampport, the taylor, for pleying of the drome (drum), an other tyme befor Maister Mayre.” In 1558 2s. was given to Dompport and Frenche for pleying before Maister Mayre (Wm. Atkynson) and the Burgesses to Seynt Avell (Ane Well). Dampport also received 12d. for going about with his “drome” on St. John's nyght and St. Peter's “before the Wache.” In 1578 are three items saying “payd to Dompport for goinge with the drum to Newwerke 16d. Peyd to Dene for his drum 20d., and payd to the Capteyne man that pled on the drum 2s. 4d. On a number of occasions items are entered in the Chamberlains' accounts of money paid for repairs to or purchase of the town's drum, which proves that it must have been frequently used, though it will puzzle some to explain where the harmony could be found. In June, 1627, 2s. 6d. was paid for a new head for the town's drum.

Under the designation of “Presaunts to the Kyng” in 1464 (Edward IV.) in vol. 2 of the “Records,” there are the following items in the Chamberlains' accounts:—“Paied for 80 galons save oon (one) of rede wyne giffen to the Kyng at his beyng here the

Thursday next after the fest of Epiphanie, &c.. price of every galon 8d., 53s.—Paied for 60 galons of rede wyne giffen to the Kyng at his second beyng here, price of every galon 8d., 40s." Then follows a long list of presents to various Lords in attendance. In 1504, vol. 3, p. 316, there is a very noticable account of a visitor and mention of an o'd Nottingham Hostelry in the Chamberlains' account, where they tell us that they "paid unto Maister Wedeley for 3 galnes (wine) unto the Bishop of Ele at Randuill Bucley at 'The Ram,' 2s." This probably was on or near the site of the 'Ram Hotel,' on the Long-row, which occupied until within the last year a portion of the background where several shops have recently been pulled down, about 20 yards to the west of King-street, and upon which some shops, &c., are at present in course of construction. In the Chamberlains' account for 1575 the following will be found:—"Item for 3 gallons of wyne, 4^{lbs}. senger gevyn to the Queen's Majesty's General Surveyar, Controwler, and other of the Queen's offycers, and for the charges of ther dynars at Maister Mer's; alle hys brethren beinge ther wyth them, the 13th of March, 13s. 4d." The equivalent in our present money would probably be between six and seven pounds. It will be noted that all the aldermen (brethren) were to be present, and there will not be much difficulty in believing that they would rejoice when such an opportunity occurred of enjoying a good dinner, including wine, without charge.

Commencing with A.D. 1800, and for the next fifteen to twenty years a change appears to have taken place in the names of a considerable number of old streets and places in the town and with a portion of them the alterations were far from being improvements, and uncalled for. In the period 1800-1806, St. James's-lane became St. James's-street. Blow Bladder-street (the lower end of Fletcher-gate) Market-street. A portion of the outside (Chapel) Bar became Toll-street, Butt Dike became Park-row. "Hen Cross," or "The Women's Market," was called the Poultry, and Swine-green, which for centuries had been the headquarters for those animals, was changed to Carlton-street, and Gridlesmith-gate, after a gradual but lengthy change from Great-smith-gate became Pelham-street. But few I think will object to this change, for Gridlesmith-gate most decidedly was too much like Bridlesmith-gate not to cause unnecessary trouble at times. Cuckstool-row—a strong reminder of the punishment meted out

to scolds—became the Poultry, or otherwise its southern side. Bridge End became Plumptre-square, from the Hospital therein, though the old name was very descriptive of its position in a period going back nearly 600 years, during a great portion of which it was the north end of a bridge which was but little under 700 feet in length, and in the repairs, &c., of which the whole of the county had to share. The town and each of the seven Wapentakes or hundreds of the county had its lawfully assigned portion, which was well known to those concerned. Plumptre-street (towards the end of Stoney-street) does not appear to have always reached through to Beliar-gate, for in 1799-1800 it was called Plumptre-place, but by or before 1806 it was called Plumptre-street. At that time it was occasionally spelled "Plumb-tree-street."

The last to be mentioned with these dates is Bearward-lane at the bottom of Chapel-bar on its southern side, the modern name for which is Mount-street. I have had reliable evidence that this thoroughfare was known by its old name of Bearward-lane until 1804, and equal authority for stating that in A.D. 1806 it was entitled Mount-street—a change deserving the sternest condemnation for severing us as it does from so many associations of the past after five centuries' connection. There were some people who gave up the old names very reluctantly and a few who would not adopt the new names and consistently to the end of their lives utilised the old ones. I remember one old lady especially, who died at an advanced age (about 90) in or near the year 1874, who invariably used the old names. She would not recognise Clumber-street, or Milton-street, or Park-row, or Mount-street, or St. Nicholas-street, or Broad-street, &c., but with herself and a number of others I frequently heard them called Cow-lane, Boot-lane, Butt-dyke, Bearward-lane, Jew-lane, Broad-lane, Swine Green, &c. To a great extent I agree with them, for the changes were certainly made without proper consideration, and, though the alterations in the titles of some were reasonable, in others they were absurd and betrayed great poverty of intelligence on the part of those making them.

Respecting members of Parliament for Nottingham in olden times, the arrangements and understandings with and respecting the holders of that office were very different to what has been the case for a considerable time now, and probably for a great part of two centuries. In the "Records," Voi.

II., p. 422, there is an extract from the Red Book of the town, dated 1436-7, which says: "An order made that the Burgesses of the Parliament for the town should have 16d. per diem (day) and no more." This, no doubt, is a resolution of the Council or Corporation, and, as a fact, they appear for many years to have really chosen the Parliamentary representatives of the town. In a note we certainly have full confirmation of that assertion, for, in continuation, it appears to have been further resolved: "That no Burgess shall be elected to Parliament unless he be of the Mayor's livery (that is, unless he have worn the livery of Mayor), &c., and if the Burgesses aforesaid be chosen in any other wise to the contrary they shall lose their wages."

In Vol. III., p. 71, John Wetherley is mentioned as member of Parliament who had money owing to him "for his presence at the last Parliament for the space of 27 days, to wit. for each day 2s." From this it appears that in 63 or 64 years the wages of a member of Parliament had increased from 16d. to 2s. per day. In Vol. III., p. 417, in the Chamberlains' account they claim to be allowed "£7 9s. 4d. for the expences of Thomas Thurland and Thomas Babington, Burgesses for the Parliament holden at Westminster in the first year of the reign of King Edward the Fourth for 56 days, taking by the day 16d. (each), total £7 9s. 4d." Thomas Thurland was Mayor of Nottingham on ten occasions during his life, and Thomas Babington was the Recorder for many years, and during part of the time he was also a Parliamentary representative of the town.

Respecting the first, his name is still kept in mind by the very appropriate title of Thurland-street, which includes a large portion of the ground on which Thurland Hall once stood, which Thomas Thurland is said to have built. This large, old, and noted building, which once fronted Great-smythgate, afterwards Grydlesmythgate, and now Pelham-street, was pulled down in the summer of 1831. Judging by what Deering shows on his map dating about 160 years since, I have no doubt that the grounds of the Hall once reached to Back-side or Parliament-street, and continued eastward to Broad-lane, now Broad-street, and up it for nearly half its length. Many large trees are shown as growing there, and in extent I think with the site it would amount to about five acres. There was no George-street or Lincoln-street then, or other smaller streets. Mr. Gregory's house was on Swinegreen, now Carlton-street, and I believe

he had a considerable quantity of land attached to it and adjoining that of Thurland Hall.

In Vol. 4, p. 276, A.D. 1605, in a report the Constables say: "We present Frances Wyron for forestawling the Markett, for that after proclamation made by ye belman to sell two oranges a penny, he went and bought them, and would sell them but one for a penny." In this case it is important to remember that the penny here mentioned would be nearly equal to eightpence of our present money three centuries since, and probably at that time represent the wages of a labourer for $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours' work; so oranges were luxuries then. Frances Wyron was fined 2s. for "forestawling" the Market which with ourselves would represent about 16s. In the Chamberlains' accounts for 1575 there is a peculiar and unusual entry, as follows: "Item for the charg (of) burning of the tretor (traitor), as Kydes, fyer, poulles (kids, fire, poles), and other necessaryes." This incident will fully prove that a great change for the better has taken place in the country since that time.

OLD NOTTINGHAM: ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XXX.

I propose to commence this article by referring to the wells or pumps, the pinfolds, and the stocks belonging to the town. Wells with ropes or chains and buckets for winding up the water appear to have been the only sort used in the town until some time after 1636. In that year an attempt was made to have a pump fixed to the well at Weekday-cross, which, in consideration of the daily market held there, was probably much more used than any other in the town. The Council were asked to order a pump, and they replied that "This compaign, having heard the vocacions of the inhabitants aboute the Weekday-cross, touching a pompe to be made where the leadon well now stands, they are of oppynion thatt one cannott conveniently be made to hould longe or to be kepte sweete; therefore doe not allowe of their mocion, but are content that the same shalbe sufficiently repayed by the newe Chamberlaynes, butt nott otherwise to be altered." The experience of the Corporation respecting this matter was extremely limited, and their opinion untrustworthy. At this period the pump barrel or piping would probably be made of wood.

The next time a pump is mentioned will be found in the Chamberlains' Accounts for 1651, namely: "Paid to Widdow Bennett for a iron sweape (handle) for the pompe at the Narrowe Marshe end, and a milstone ther, 2s. 0d." This, I believe, is the first mention of a pump which was being used in Nottingham. Judging from inferences to be gathered in the "Records," &c., there appears good reason for supposing that at one period the town possessed nearly thirty public wells, of which several were made in the seventeenth century, one of them being ordered on Short-hill (south side of Hollow-stone) in 1663. Of this number it is possible to locate about twenty, namely:—Weekday-cross, east end of Spice Chamber, St. Mary's Church yard, Shambles end, St. Peter's Church, Women's Market (Poultry), Bridge end (Plumptre-square), (Long) Stairs Foot (Narrow-marsh), Upper Parliament-street (back side), Lower Parliament-street, Narrow-marsh end, Short-hill, outside Chapel-bar (front of

the old Dolphin Inn), St. James's-lane (street), St. Nicholas' Church Stile, near John Marshall's door, Beestmarket-hill, front of Exchange, Goose-gate, Friar Wall, Walser (Warser) Gate, Spittle Well, Castle-gate, and St. Mary's-gate. The position of some, I have no doubt, would be strongly objected to in modern times, and especially those which were near to each of the churches. The liability of "essence of grandmother," or some other relative or friend, being included in the water would be much too great to prove satisfactory.

Respecting pinfolds, there is an account of five or six, though in this and other cases the definitions of our ancestors are doubtful occasionally. Their positions were as follows:—Bridge End, Goose-gate, towards High-cross, in the Sandfield, and Narrow-marsh, near (Long) "Sterres." One is also mentioned at Leen Bridge, and Bridge-foot was at the end of the bridge, so they may have been the same. From there being proportionately so many pinfolds in the town formerly, and other circumstances confirming, we are warranted in supposing that there must have been a large number of cattle and other domestic animals belonging to it.

From what may be gathered in the "Records," I can easily believe that the stocks in the town would be in constant requisition. There were four of them, of which the positions can be defined as follows:—Weekday-cross, Timber-hill, Goose-gate end, and Bridge End (now Plumptre-square). Constant references are made in the "Records" regarding the needs or repairing of the woodwork, &c., connected with the wells, the pinfolds, and the stocks.

In vol. 4 of the "Records," pp. 403-4, A.D. 1606, there is an account of some rather peculiar monetary transactions between Sir John Byron and William Trinder, "husbandman," which show that Sir John was very short of money and that it must have been well known to many, for he was compelled to find a substantial bondsman before he could borrow any cash. At this date deeds and bonds appear to have been registered in the town. The first is as follows:—"1605-6, January 10. Bond for £200 from Sir John Byron, of Newsted, Senior, Knt., to William Trinder, of Sention, husbandman, to save him harmless upon a bond for £88, for which sum he had been bound for the debts of the said Sir John Biron." This appears like a descent in dignity to be compelled to solicit such a favour from a man whom he would probably be chary of acknowledging in the street, but the husbandman

was a wealthy man whose bond would be taken for any reasonable amount by those knowing him, whereas the titled man was impecunious and probably spent his income quite as fast as it became due.

About three years afterwards Sir John again appealed for help, and on 27th February, 1609, wrote the following letter:—"Sir John Byron to William Trynder, of Snenton. I thank you for payment of £100 on the bond in which you have joined me. Sir Henry Pierrepont is pleased to pleasure me with this sum for some further time upon your bond and mine. I have already sealed a new bond which I entreat you to join me in, and that you will come to Sir Henry's on Thursday next to perform the same. On Saturday you shall receive from me at Nottingham a new counter-bond." That the name and fame of William Trynder, "husbandman," travelled far is evident from the next entry in the "Records" where he is concerned. At this time James I. was King, and he certainly did, or ordered to be done, things at times which others would not think of. In vol. 4, p. 404, will be found this entry: "1611, December 6th. Printed writ of Privy Seal from the King to William Trynder, of Sneynton, requiring him to lend £6 13s. 4d. The receipt of this sum by John Hacker, esquire, the collector, is endorsed upon the writ." Without this receipt it would have almost appeared incredible. There is evidence that William Trynder lent money to various other people. "Probate of the Will of William Trynder, of Nottingham, Yeoman. Proved January 21st, 1617-18." There is no information respecting any settlement with Sir John Byron for the money borrowed.

In 1694 a dreadful fire occurred at Warwick, when a considerable part of the town was burned down. There is this entry in the minutes of the Common Council:—"1694—Tuesday, October 23. Master Alderman Salmon brought a receipt from the Mayor of Warwick (Joseph Blissett) for £132 3s. 1d., collected for the releife of the poore people of Warwicke who suffered by fyre there, both which receipts are upon a fyle in the hall." A second receipt had reference to some interest money.

Three centuries since and less it is a fact which to many will appear strange that the Corporation or Town Council assumed to themselves the power to choose those who should represent the town in Parliament. In "The Records," vol. 5, p. 129—November 20th, 1627—the following is extracted from the minutes: "This Companie are all agreed

thatt yf a Parliament happen shortly to be called (as the rumour allreddy is) thatt then twoe gentlemen of the countrie shalbe chosen for easinge the townes chardges; and the same strangers are thought fittinge by all ye companie except 2 to be Sir Charles Cavendish and Maister Henry Pierepont, eldest son to the Lord Vicount (sic) Newarke, in hope thatt the towne yielkinge to their request touchinge theire eleccions hereafter to this Parliament ensewinge (yf anie bee) may gayne the friendship and favour of those twoe noble families and have their assistance to the towne when anie occasion shall be offered." According to this the town was of no consideration whatever in the choice of members of Parliament compared with the Council, who arrogantly claimed the whole of the authority.

On March 23, 1621 (six years or so previously), the Council in their minutes tell us "The greater parte of this companie doe hold ytt convenient that 2 forreyners (non-burgesses) be chosen for the towne to serve in this Parliament for the easinge of the towne's charge." That is, the town would then be freed from the payment of "wages," as mentioned in the preceding communication. In one respect the Council are very candid with us, for they desire that "2 forreyners be chosen 'for' the towne," but not "by" the towne, as that would have altered the case entirely.

There is an interesting reminiscence of youthful days still retained in my memory which connects us with some of the doings of our ancestors commencing above 200 years since. It is the having seen Sedan chairs carried about with (generally) old ladies inside, who being always accustomed to them were unwilling to give up their use. This is nearly seventy years since. My old fellow-citizens will be aware that they were borne on two short poles, with a man at the back and front. About forty years since one of these old carriers or bearers, whom I knew and whose name was Fogg, died in the Lambly Hospital at the top of Derby-road, and with him I believe passed away the last of those directly connecting us with these relics of the past.

At that time, though gas was in use with many people, oil lamps had not all been cast off, but some could even be found in back streets for lighting purposes. The town proper at that period did not include its suburbs of Radford, Basford, Lenton, and Sneinton, and though the streets were lighted at night they were far behind what is at present the case, but when passing—in the evening—beyond the

town boundaries the probabilities were that it would be into darkness. Lanterns were then in common use, and it is impressed upon my mind that as a boy I went on a number of occasions with some one when it was dark to Radford or Bloomsgrrove, and that we took one to light us in those parts.

In 1747 there was a Parliamentary contest between John Plumptre, Esq., and Sir Charles Sedley, Bart., when Sir Charles was successful. To commemorate the event he bestowed upon his supporters the finest fir tree he could find in his woods at Nuttall. It was cut down, and, having been brought to the town, was fixed for a Maypole in Parliament-street, rather higher up than the ends of Clumber-street (then Cow-lane) and Milton-street (then Boot-lane) and facing the west end of Parliament-row, which at that time occupied the centre of Lower Parliament-street. It is said to have remained here until 1780, when, by order of one of the overseers of the highways for that year (Mr. Thomas Wyer), and probably being decayed, it was removed. This was, I consider, the last Maypole to be fixed in the streets in Nottingham. Possibly, from not being far away, it may have suggested the naming of the Maypole Hotel.

Seventy years since there were constables and watchmen, though not necessarily the same men. The watchmen would, I think, in many cases, if observed, be found to be greyhaired, and the constables would on an average be older than our present policemen; and seventy years or thereabouts they were very much fewer in number than are present policemen. During the late night or early morning the watchmen would call out the time on frequent occasions and also the sort of weather, as "Half-past one and a fine morn, or cloudy morn; and two o'clock and a rainy morn, &c., &c."

A number of my older fellow-citizens will still remember men for many years who daily stood on the front of the Exchange with small pies to sell or gamble away, their cry being, "Pies all hot, all hot. Toss or buy, toss or buy. Pies all hot." They had the means with them of keeping a small fire to make them hot. At this time on the Long-row between the pillars two small stalls could generally be found on which sweets were sold. One of them was close to the upper end of the Row and near to the Old Bear Inn, which, as I have before remarked, was pulled down and the site included in the extensive premises of Mr. Foster, furniture manufacturer.

The other was more eastward. I seem to have a dim recollection of another stall being kept between the pillars of the old Town Hall many years before it was cleared away for the Great Central Railway.

In the "Records," Vol. III., page 400, A.D. 1545, the Editor in Note 5, when referring to Burgesses and a presentment respecting Lammas, says:—"The Burgesses had the right of commoning over this land from Lammas Day (14th August) to Martinmas (11th November). This right was commuted by the Enclosure Act of 1845. On Lammas Day all the fences were thrown down and the enclosure converted into one great common field in its ancient sense. At Martinmas the owners of the enclosures erected fences which were retained until the following Lammas. It is to this erection of fences that this presentment refers." I entirely disagree with this conclusion, as doubtless according to the remembrance of the oldest inhabitants and also to tradition coming down to us, it is thoroughly incorrect to say that "On Lammas Day all the fences were thrown down and the enclosures converted into one great common field in its ancient sense," for such was not the case. There was no converting whatever into one great common field, for practically all the fields remained as they were, and anyone half a mile away would be unable to see in the hedges much, if any, change between the close time and when it was Lammas, and with a few exceptions the whole of the fields remained much as they were.

The field gates generally were removed, and if the occupier of the field was wise he would cause a number of "gaps" to be made in various parts of the fence, so that those therein should have uninterrupted egress in all directions; but it is utterly wrong when this was the case to say "all the fences were thrown down," as it is untrue. If such had really been the fact the cost of replacing the fences of all the fields, when those using them could claim them for nine months only in each year, would in many cases amount to a large portion, if not the whole, of the rent. The editor, comparatively speaking, has, I believe, the claim of being considered a young man, and therefore most likely has no personal knowledge of anything relating to the fences of the pre-enclosure fields. I have a great desire that "the truth, and nothing but the truth," respecting these and other matters relating thereto should go down to posterity, and that is my reason for objecting, though there is an important consideration opposed to his assertion. The fences were generally quick-

set, growing hawthorns, and numbers had been in position for scores of years, with wood of a good thickness amongst them. Had these fences been thrown down each year? I remember an old (growing) hawthorn hedge on each side of Little Lark Dale, which, from the character of the wood, had been there a great portion of a century; I wish to know how these and others were again infused with life after being thrown down each year?

We cannot forget that in the great fenceless field mentioned above there would be a large number of banks and dikes (allowing that all the fences were thrown down, which I do not)—these would be no better than traps to the horses and cattle placed therein. Yet there is no fear of that, for the fences were not thrown down, except in imagination. Finally, I will give an extract from Vol. 3, p. 374, proving that my statements respecting the character of the hedges is accurate, and that they could not be thrown down, but that they would have to be grubbed up if taken away. In 1535, April 12th, in a presentment at the Sessions the constables say "We present one Thomas Tettford that dwells in House with Omfrey Coke in Fyssher Gate for cutting up the quyke set hege in dyvers plasus a bouthe thys towne." No occupier in the enjoyment of his senses would think of setting hedges of this kind if they had to be "thrown down" each year.

In the second paragraph I refer to a "milnstone," and in relation thereto I desire to say that in olden times the places where corn, &c., was ground were called milnes, and the proprietor, or overlooker, was a milner; as time went on these names were changed to mill and miller, but the two names were identical, and as surnames we have each in use (Milner and Miller) at present.

OLD NOTTINGHAM :

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XXXI.

In this, my concluding, article on the above subject I wish to refer to the second part of my ninth letter connected with the Howitts, and William Wordsworth, whose name is there incidentally mentioned, and to give fuller and interesting particulars of his visit to Nottingham, which are obtained from "Some Reminiscences of Nottingham," by Mary Howitt. Referring to her husband she says: "Towards the end of March, 1831, William and I were surprised one morning by a call from the poet Wordsworth, looking unhappy and dismayed. He explained that he, with wife, daughter, and a grandchild, journeying home from London, had arrived in Nottingham the preceding night; Mrs. Wordsworth, however, was taken so ill that it was impossible for them to go on. They knew no one in the town except us by name; would we at least befriend them so far as to direct them to a medical man? But long before we had learnt the particulars of this sad story, which he seemed almost too perturbed to tell, we had assured him of every help on our part. The invalid was conveyed to our house, and as Dr. Godfrey Howitt, who was an intelligent young physician, on being called in merely prescribed rest and good attendance, Wordsworth perceiving that his wife could have both with us left her and Dora under our roof, and proceeded on his way with little Rotha.

"Our guests remained with us a fortnight. Mrs. Wordsworth was agreeable and unpretending. . . . William's brother, Emanuel, being at Farnsfield, lent us his phaeton, so that Mrs. Wordsworth when sufficiently recovered could take a daily airing; and I think he himself must often have driven them about the pleasant neighbourhood, with its Sherwood traditions, since they retained for him a warm regard, and that not alone they declared, because he was an anti-revolutionist." "It was, it must be remembered, the time of a general election, and the approach of the passing of the Reform Bill. Politics were the all-absorbing theme, as the nation watched with intense interest the proceedings of King, Lords, and Commons. Mr. Wordsworth could think, write, and talk on no other subject than the coming Revolution; 'the Deform,' as he termed it. His wife and

daughter on their return found him complaining that 'he was as well in body as sorrow and heaviness for the condition of his country would allow him to be.' A visit to Keswick did not revive him, for Southey's buoyant, cheerful spirit had likewise sunk under the mischief he felt must arise from the imminent revolution.

"These two great poets and Christian philosophers, dreading democracy, also believed that if England had no established religion she soon would have none at all. My husband, brought up in another school of thought, felt it needful to arraign the proceedings of a law-upheld Church. I sided with him; it was natural, therefore, that Wordsworth should regard us as well-intentioned but very 'tumultuous young people.' This difference of opinion did not, however, interfere with our friendship." These very interesting particulars of Wordsworth's visit to Nottingham with his wife's stay in the town for a week or two all appear to be associated with the old druggist shop and house, as before-mentioned, at the corner of Newcastle-street and Parliament-street, which are soon to be things of the past. (See further particulars in article No. 9.)

Many are still left amongst the old inhabitants of the city who will remember the official Bellman of the town with his silvered livery coat and band round his hat. The last to hold the post and to be so clothed was named Berry, whose given name I think was Thomas. I imagine that fifty years or thereabouts must have elapsed since he went round Nottingham in carrying out this duty. I have the idea that for a time he lived in the buildings of the old Town Hall (Weekday-cross), but in the last part of his life it was at the Castle Lodge, and from what I have learned he probably died there about thirty-seven years since. I remember his predecessor, though his name has escaped my memory.

Modern times are not favourable to such offices, for we have now far superior methods of advertising, to sending a man round the town with a bell. Several private individuals since the withdrawal of the official bellman have acted more or less in that capacity, but the most prominent of them was old blind Peter Conroy, who did more business in that way than anyone afterwards. The first mention of the bellman which I find in the Records is incidentally, and A.D. 1504—nearly 400 years since, but in a manner which shows that the town had possessed such an officer some time before then. In the Chamberlains' accounts for 1541, there is this item:

"Peyd to Mason, bellman, for goying aboute the towne fore tymez with hys belle for the towne busynce, 4d." In other places there are entries of the same sort. Almost as a matter of form the Serjeant at Mace, Mr. William Brooksbank, succeeded to the title of Mr. Berry, as the town crier or bellman, but he had no particular liking for such an occupation, and I may say that he never carried out the duties, though there is no doubt that on a number of occasions this was to the benefit of blind Peter Conroy. Mr. Brooksbank died about eight years since, aged 93 years, and with him the old office of town crier or bellman has probably ended. I recently heard of the old bell being yet used in the town, but the place is now forgotten.

Between sixty and seventy years since there were twenty-one windmills to be found in or near to the town. An old but excellent map dating back about 73 years shows that at intervals near to the road on the top of the Forest between Mansfield-road and Alfreton-road, there were thirteen windmills. A few appear to have had a house attached to them. The last which was left of them was a smock-mill (brickwork), which had been and probably remained in the possession of Mr. Smith, baker, of Albert-street, and in which steam power had afterwards been introduced. It was unfortunately burned down in December, 1858, and thus came to an end the last of the fifteen windmills once standing in the town; the other two being near to the open space at the top of Derby-road, as remarked in a preceding article. At the time mentioned there appears to have been three windmills on Sherwood-rise, and also three at Sneinton, which completes the number to twenty-one. I should have said before, that Mr. Smith's smock, or afterwards steam mill, was on the south-eastern side of Forest-road about two hundred yards from Alfreton-road and to the south-west, but close to the top end of little Lark Dale, where it adjoined the Forest-road.

In letter No. X. I refer to what Deering tells us respecting the oldest brick house in Nottingham (1615), being the Green Dragon, on the Long-row. The Date Book further adds that the Green Dragon Inn was afterwards known as the Derby Arms Inn. With this conclusion I entirely disagreed, for there is nothing to show that the Derby Arms ever had the requirements attaching to it which Deering mentions as pertaining to the Green Dragon, whereas from an old engraving of that end of the Long-row the George and Dragon is shown to possess them all,

and without hesitation I gave it the preference. I am glad to say that quite recently I obtained evidence which I think should be conclusive, and that though a change of name did occur a long time since, the Derby Arms had not previously been known as the Green Dragon.

I have seen an old deed relating to the adjoining property, and it is there described as "the Derby Arms, formerly the Bear and Dragon." This not only thoroughly convinces me that the old George and Dragon (since rebuilt) was the first brick house intended to be described, but to consider it an error on Deering's part to call it the Green Dragon. Whilst writing I have found further evidence which will dispose of any doubt respecting the change of name. The old deed tells us of the Bear and Dragon, but I will quote the Date Book against itself. On page 122, A.D. 1615, the editor says the old name was the Green Dragon, whilst on page 226, A.D. 1799, he enters the name of Beardmore as keeping the Bear and Dragon, Long Row, which fully accords with the deed mentioned. The Old Bear was only ten or twelve yards to the west of the Bear and Dragon, or Derby Arms, and the George and Dragon twelve to fifteen yards from the Old Bear. Whilst its near neighbours had names like these I can understand the desirability of changing the Bear and Dragon for a title more distinct. Between the two Dragons Deering appears to have been confused, but the authority given is superior to his own. In the same deed Backside (the old name) is applied to or in connection with Parliament-street.

On page 382, Vol. IV., A.D. 1623, in the "Borough Records," we may by inference obtain an excellent idea of the value of property in a leading part of Nottingham at that date. The following is an extract from the minutes of the Council: "Ytt is agreed that Anthonie Millington shall have a lease of his house on the Long-rowe for 21 yeares from our Lady Day next att £10 fyne and thirtye shillings rent, and to take this for his Burgesse part, and the fyne to be paid thus: fyve powndes in hand and fyve powndes at Michas mas nexte." They had no idea at that time of selling or leasing land by the square yard, and nothing is therefore mentioned respecting the quantity included in the lease. At that time a burgesse part of one shilling value per week would certainly be considered excellent. On such conditions, even for those days, Anthonie Millington appears to have done well, but making allowance

that our modern buildings on the Row are no doubt very much superior to those of 280 years since, many in these days would be glad of an equal opportunity of obtaining premises in that locality.

In times long past the Corporation and many others certainly had singular notions of the duties of landlords to tenants, &c. On a number of occasions petitions were sent to the Council, or considered by them, respecting mills for grinding purposes which were started in the town to the "detriment" of the town mills. In January, 1620, at a meeting, the minutes say: "Ytt is agreed that a certificate shall be made out to the Righte Honourable the Barrons of the Exchequer att the intreaty of the tenants to the towne's mills for the suppression of the other newe erected mills lately made, and this company (all but . . . three) have put theere handes to the same certificats accordingly. Which mooion Maister Recorder hath undertaken to make to ye Barons."

In 1630 and 1631 further movements were made to suppress mills not belonging to the town. In June, 1692, the Council "ordered that all persons who have leases of the town and are obliged by their Covenants to grind at the Town Mills, which now Mistrie Hall hath a lease of, do grind their corn there so long as they ar' justly and fairly used there. And if they upon her complaint refuse to do so, that the Corporation compel them thereto according to their Covenants." There was but little freedom of trade here, but in the next notice to tenants the Corporation were very definite and threaten the tenants who refuse to grind at the town's mills unless they observe their covenants and appear at the next Hall, "that they (will be) forthwith proceeded against, according to law." This is just 200 years since, but if it was possible for our present Corporation to so far forget themselves as to use such threats we should imagine they had lost their minds.

John Evelyn, in his Diary, A.D. 1654, as a stranger passing through the town and a portion of the county, gives some interesting particulars. He seems to have gone by way of Belvoir Castle to Newark and left there on the 14th August, coming by Wharton House, belonging to Lord Chaworth, "then by Home (? Holme Pierrepont), a noble place belonging to the Marquis of Dorchester, and passed the famous river Trent, which divides the south from the north of England, and so lay that night at Nottingham. The whole town and county seems to be but one entire rock, as it were, an exceeding

pleasant shire, full of gentry. Here I observed divers to live in the rocks and caves much after the manner as about Tours in France. The church (? St. Mary's) is well built on an eminence; there is a fair house of the Lord Clares (? Thurland Hall), another of Pierrepont's, an ample Market-place; large streets full of crosses; the relics of an ancient castle, hollowed beneath which are many caverns, especially that of the Scots King, and his work whilst there "

It will probably be news to most to be informed that as regards bells St. Mary's Church for some years appears to have occupied the second place in the town. Deering in his history, pp. 21-22, informs us that in his time—about 160 years since—St. Mary's possessed six bells only, whilst there was a full peal of eight bells at St. Peter's. This proportion has since been reversed, for I believe I am right in saying that there are now ten bells in St. Mary's Church, whilst there has been no increase in those of St. Peter's since Deering wrote. In former times the ordering and arrangements respecting the ringing of church bells appears to have been one of the prerogatives of the Town Council or Corporation. At a meeting held A.D. 1676, August 22, vol. 5. p. 320, is the following:—"Passinge Bells and Ringinge of Bells at Funeralls. It is alsoe ordered yat from this day forward the Sextons of the severall parishes within this towne shall forbear to tole the bell any longer then one quarter of an houre, in that houre that is appoynted for the meetinge of the guests to attend the Funerall, and then noe longer untill the Corps be brought oute to be carryed to the Church, and those that are desirous to have all the Bells runge shall have them at the rate accustomed." According to this the full control of the bells was undoubtedly then vested in the Corporation or exercised by them. The bells of St. Peter's Church were recast, as per "Date Book," in 1771.

That they used the money of the towne for purposes which in these days would be objected to as thoroughly illegal cannot be doubted. On December 29th, 1668, the Council "ordered that such persons as are now inhabitants of this towne and are desirous to make fyne(£10) to become burgesses and take and subscribe the oaths . . . shall by the consent and good liking of this company be made burgesses, and the one moyty (half) of such fynes shall be employed for buyinge of bells for Saint Marye's Church, and the other for the repayres of Saint Peter's chancell." On May 16,

1670, an oak tree from the Coppice and another if needed was ordered by the Town Council to be given for St. Peter's chancel. On Friday, September 8, 1671, it was "ordered by this Councell" that ten timber tries of the best in the Coppice to be set out and employed towards the rebuilding of St. Nicholas's Church. On September 6, 1670, the Council ordered that three sums of forty shillings should be given towards the repair and rebuilding of St. Peter's chancel. In May, 1672, wood for hanging bells is ordered to be given to St. Peter's Church.

On August 3, 1675 (see "Records," vol. 5, p. 319) we are told "yat this day Master Edward Greaves brought in a receipte under the hand of Master John Martyn for the some of thirty pounds given by the Councell for and towards the covering of Saint Nicholas Church, now buildinge with leade, which receipte bears date the 24th day of October, 1674, was this day delivered to the said Edward Greaves." On September 24th, 1678, the Council ordered £50 to be paid "for the finishing of Saint Nicholas Church steple and chancell." April 12, 1688, until the contrary was resolved the Councill ordered that £20 per annum should be paid to each of the "parsons or vicars of the three severall parishes of Nottingham . . . to be paid quarterly to the said severall ministers." There are also other and similar orders recorded as having been made by the Council.

In the 37th year of Queen Elizabeth the Council ordered "That noe person being a forriner shall leade any manure or mucke out of the townes libertyes unlesse he pay therefor to the Chamberlynes' of this towne for the tyme being for every carbe load a penney for so many loades as they carry over any pavement, and yat Snenton burg men shall fetch noe mucke out of the towne unless they do yearly amend the Tylehouse-lane before Midsummer-day. It is this day ordered by this Councell yat the former order be revived and stand in force, and the Chamberlyne for the time being to see this order duly executed." To most this will probably appear a very assuming and high-handed regulation. A penny at this date (about 1595) would be equal to 8d. or 9d. in these times.

Judged by present-day ideas the punishments meted out to delinquents 130 years since and less were most abominable and degrading in character. On October 11, 1769, a young woman, 19 years of age, having been convicted of obtaining goods under false pretences, was stripped to the waist in the

Market-place (it being market day) and publicly whipped by order of the Court of Quarter Sessions. As there was no doubt some alternative modes of punishment the Recorder or Judge offended public morality as much or more than the culprit. In April, 1770, John Lord, for stealing a pair of window curtains from the Crown Inn, was whipped from Weekday-cross to the Malt-cross and back to the Hen-cross (Poultry). An old man, aged 80, for stealing hay, and a woman named Hawley for stealing two cotton gowns, were sentenced to be publicly whipped at the Malt-cross. A young woman was also stripped, tied to a cart, and whipped from Week-day-cross to the Malt-cross in the Market-place for stealing pocket handkerchiefs from a draper's shop. This mode of punishment was carried out until May 26, 1830, when the last public whipping occurred in Nottingham.

A century since in other directions also the laws were most odious in character. On 23rd July, 1795, Ann Meekings was convicted at the town Assizes of stealing a bit of lace edging from the shop of Messrs. Swann, Long-row, when Mr. Justice Buller sentenced her to be hung. This affected her in a most violent form, and caused her to scream for some time hysterically. She was fortunately reprieved afterwards. When the people obtained more power such outrageous and disgraceful punishments were soon ended.

OLD NOTTINGHAM :

Its Streets, People, &c.

BY

JAMES GRANGER.

SECOND SERIES.

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PREFACE.

It is now more than two years since the first series appeared of "Old Nottingham, Its Streets. People, &c.," and I desire to express my sincere thanks for the gratifying reception accorded to it. From this circumstance I have been encouraged to undertake a second series, for which I hope to receive the same favourable consideration.

I am painfully aware that in this series, as in the first, various slight errors in orthography and typography have crept in, together with a few others, for which I hope to be leniently judged.

Respecting the statements herein made, I believe that they will generally be found reliable, for I have in many instances been at considerable trouble to verify them. This labour has been much lessened by my being able to refer to numerous old books and documents, together with a number of other matters appropriate to the subject—such as large and rare old maps, large views of the old town, &c., which are frequently mentioned.

I much regret that I am compelled in this series, as in the first, to differ with some of the assertions, or conclusions, of the Editors of the Borough Records. That work is official, and, as an old inhabitant of Nottingham, a sense of duty impels me, as I hope it will others, to take exception to what may fairly be considered incorrect or misleading in those Records. The remarks are made without the least personal feeling, and for the purpose only of improving them.

I desire to return my sincere thanks to many friends who, during the time occupied in bringing out this work, have made numerous useful suggestions, and provided me with various matters of much rarity and interest, for consideration and reference.

JAMES GRANGER.

August, 1904.

OLD NOTTINGHAM:

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE. &c

I.

Two years have now almost elapsed since I first wrote upon this subject, which includes many matters of interest allowing of much being said respecting them. From the encouraging reception of what has previously been issued, I am emboldened to commence a second series.

In olden times, and even to the beginning of the nineteenth century, when "The Forest" was mentioned at Nottingham, it was thoroughly and undoubtedly understood as being that of Sherwood. The title "Nottingham Forest" is comparatively of recent application, and I believe that such a term cannot be found in Deering's, Throsby's, or Blackner's Histories, which brings us down to 1815. Deering wrote about 1747 (he died in February, 1749), and the poet of his day speaks of Nottingham as being "In ancient Sherwood's south-west angle placed."

Even as late as 1834, Dearden, in his "Topography and Directory of Nottingham," when referring to this part, says:—"The present Racecourse is of an oval form, having been altered from its original shape in 1813. It is situated in a part of 'Sherwood Forest' to the west of Mansfield-road, being the lowest part of the ground, from which a steep acclivity, crowned by a long range of windmills, rises on the southern side of it, and affords the spectators as fine a view of the whole course as is enjoyed by those who ascend the Grand Stand." The mills for about half a century have been associated with the past.

From this it will be seen that in living memory, when the definite article was used and "The Forest" mentioned, it was fully understood as referring to Sherwood Forest. Still there was in former times a distinguishing name for that part of old Sherwood which we now designate Nottingham Forest, and that was the "Nottingham Lyngees," or "Lings."

They are probably mentioned first in the Records, Vol. I., p. 123, A.D. 1335, and in the same volume, p. 435, A.D. 1629, a release of land is mentioned, "abutting upon the common ground called the Lynges on the north"; that is, each reached to the top of the hill; the Lings on the north side and Lingdale, or Bowling-alley, and Larkdale on the south side. and adjoined or abutted upon each other at the part where Forest-road is now formed.

In Vol. II. of the Records, p. 417, A.D. 1473, there is a grant mentioned, with other matters, of eight and a half acres of land in "Lyngdale." In the same volume, p. 115, A.D. 1416, a grant of half an acre of land in Lyngdale is recited. In Vol. III., p. 473, A.D. 1538, we are informed that the Lynges were the common pasture of the town of Nottingham, which quite agrees with the idea of Nottingham Forest as it was fifty years since or more, and which, as we know, covers, or did cover, a space of considerably over 100 acres. In Vol. V., p. 41, of the Borough Records, mention is made of "a certain waste called 'Nottingham Lings,' otherwise 'Basford Lings' (but as) lying and being within the precincts and liberties of the town of Nottingham." This most undoubtedly refers to what we now call "The Forest," and it is fully decided to be so by a resolution of the Corporation, as recorded in the same volume, p. 401, June 16th, 1699, when they "ordered that the Chamberlyns doe pay five pounds towards a plate to be run for upon Nottingham and Basford Lings at the next Horse Race."

This should be decisive; yet we are told in Vol. IV., p. 439, where reference is made to three occasions on which the Lings have been mentioned, and also in Vol V., p. 449, that the Lings are "a portion of the Larkdales," which was a diminutive "Dalette," and merely a foot-path between hedges, three to four hundred yards long and two to three yards wide, being for the most part sunk between the fences, and commencing at the southern or bottom end in a very large open field and reaching at its northern extremity to where Forest-road is now formed, though it will be observed that it was on the opposite side of the hill to the Lings.

The remembrance of it in its olden state is still fully retained by many of the old inhabitants of the city (as well as myself) who resided near, and are aware of the impossibility of including the Lings with the Racecourse, &c., in little Larkdale.

Sherwood Forest at one time contained approximately 100,000 acres, and appears to have reached from the Trent in the south to Worksop in the north. The town with its ground occupied part of the southern boundary.

Fortunately for Nottingham, it was for some centuries by Charter exempted to a great extent from interference under the old and exceedingly severe Forest Laws; yet, with eighteen other smaller towns or villages, it was in a large measure encircled by or included in the southern and much smaller portion of the Forest boundaries, the old name for which was Thorneywood. This has been remembered in the title given to one of the city roads which was formerly called Wood-lane, and leads on to Mapperley Plains. The name is said to have originated in the large amount of thorny underwood to be then found in that portion of the Forest. The northern part was entitled the "High Forest," which Deering says "was anciently most richly provided with stately oaks, in tallness and straightness of the bole, hardly giving way to the firs in the northern parts of Europe, quite freed from any thorns or other underwood."

Dr. Thoroton, about 1675, complains that in his time "so many claims have been allowed by the deputies and lieutenant of the lord warden (of the Forest) that he fears there will shortly not be wood enough left to cover the bilberries, which every summer were wont to be an extraordinary great profit and pleasure to the poor people who gathered them and carried them about the country to sell."

In Vol. II., p. 258, of Throsby's Thoroton, 1797, when referring to Bulwell, he says: "It is all enclosed but that portion which constitutes part of the forest," which then meant that of Sherwood, though now and of late years entitled Bulwell Forest.

Deering when speaking of Mansfield calls

it a forest town, and mentions the horse road over the forest to Newark from Nottingham by the northern bank of the Trent as being "a pleasurable journey." This was about 1746, and from that date, or perhaps a little earlier, until about 1820 a great number of enclosures took place of the lands of various parishes in the country generally, and from this cause, and also to the serious lessening of the forest's extent by other and more objectionable acts on the part of various persons, as we are told by Dr. Thoroton, &c., it was greatly circumscribed, and the wood continually cut down. I therefore consider that it is chiefly from these causes, and after the year 1800, that such names as Mansfield Forest, Bulwell Forest, Nottingham Forest, &c., gradually became recognised, and when the appellation "Sherwood Forest" slowly passed out of ordinary use.

In Blackner, on pp. 37-38, we are informed that according to a survey of Sherwood Forest made in the year 1609, it contains 95,115 acres, of which 44,839 acres were then enclosed: 9,486 in woods, 35,080 in wastes, 1,583 in Clipston Park, 3,672 in Beskwood Park, 326 in Bulwell Park (? now Forest), and 129 in Nottingham Park (? Forest). From 1796 to 1799 the following enclosures took place—viz.: 2,280 acres in Arnold pariah, 1,158 in Basford, 2,608 in Sutton-in-Ashfield, 1,941 in Kirkby, and 261 in Lenton and Radford. Since then many large portions of the Forest in Lambley, Gedling, and other parishes have been enclosed, so that out of 95,115 acres or more contained within the ancient limits of the Forest 60,000 acres are probably now cultivated, and the remainder is partly in woods, plantations, and wastes.

It will therefore be seen that the term "Forest" for many years past would not be applicable in its old sense to a great portion of that part of the county, and from this cause it appears to have gradually ceased being employed; but other names were adopted in various parts of the district in place thereof which were more descriptive of the localities.

Dr. Thoroton, from what he says in different parts of his history, appears to have been much

opposed to these enclosures, and speaks out strongly respecting some of them. When referring to "Thorpe in the Clotts"—or, as it is now entitled, "Thorpe in the Glebes," Nottinghamshire—he says: "Inclosing the Lordship (as it doth in all places where the soil is anything good in this county for certain) hath so ruined and depopulated the town that in my time there was not a house left inhabited of this notable Lordship (except some part of the Hall, Mr. Armstrong's house) but a shepherd's only." I think there cannot be much doubt respecting rural districts that if the terms of the Enclosure Acts are equitable to all ranks of the people, and land for good sized commons were set apart for the villagers as compensation for what they lose, according to Dr. Thoroton, such as collecting wild fruit or help in feeding a cow or other animals, that just cause for complaint and the depopulation of the villages would be greatly lessened, if not entirely avoided.

In my last article (No. 31), referring to Old Nottingham, I noticed briefly the windmills (21) which about fifty years since were standing in or near to the town. Judging from history as regards Nottingham, there appears to be reason for supposing that these mills were, comparatively speaking, of modern introduction, there being but little mention of them earlier than the nineteenth century. Mills for grinding purposes are no doubt noticed frequently; but as regards the town, on reference, it will be found from their position that the motive power of some was derived from water, and in other cases from horses.

I have only observed two instances in the Borough Records where windmills are mentioned in Nottingham, and, singular to say, they are each in Vol. I.—the first on p. 17, and dated 1222-1235; the second instance is on p. 123, A.D. 1335, being a century or more later than the first. In one case it is about 670 and in the other 570 years since. It is certainly very strange, and from no further mention of such mills appearing to have been made in the Records it is almost sufficient to cause us to doubt whether or not in the original it

really was a windmill intended to be described in each case, or one worked by some other power. That there were mills at that early date appears beyond doubt, for Thoroton in his "History of Nottinghamshire" mentions one at Thorpe, near Wysall, as being there in the reign of Henry I., A.D. 1100-1135, or nearly 800 years since, though we have no information respecting the power by which it was worked.

In the Records, Vol I., p. 123, William de Amyas is mentioned in 1335 as owning a mill in Nottingham, which, from what is said of the locality, was probably on land to the south-west of Tollhouse-hill, or Derby-road. On p. 117, A.D. 1330, "The Mills of the Lord King" are incidentally mentioned in the transfer of some property. At that period they were connected with the Castle, which was owned by the Crown. They were situated near the rock, and no doubt worked by water-power in connection with the river Leen.

Some of the mills were the property of the Corporation as representing the town. In Vol. II., p. 373, of the Records, A.D. 1464, are several interesting statements respecting "The Reparacion of the Horse Milne" (Mill), namely, "Item paid for a paire of newe milnestones, &c., 12s. Item for makyng of a brass to the same milne, whereof the stuff was of the comyn (common) store, 14d. Item paid for a new brasse boght of Belyetterson for 3s. 3d. Item for mendyng of the spyndelle and irne (iron) that were wanted for the same, 12d. Item for shotyng (shooting or straightening) of the same spyndelle another tyme, 6d. Item for lattyng and dawbyng (lathing and plastering with mud or clay) of the milne walle, 12d." The last item proves conclusively that the "milne" was to a great extent built of wood from the repairs to the wall being carried out in the manner stated, for at this date (1464) there was not a brick house in the town, nor for 150 years afterwards. These particulars are taken from the Chamberlain's accounts.

In the same volume, pp. 380-83, there is an award of arbitrators between the Mayor, Burgesses, &c., of Nottingham, and Henre Perpoynt, esquier, regarding (with other things)

a mill on the Leen, which the latter appears to have built, and in so doing to have appropriated rights belonging to the town, as the award was in favour of the Mayor and Burgesses.

There were numerous complaints at intervals from the occupiers of the mills belonging to the Corporation of strangers commencing to grind and taking their custom, and asking the Council to stop them. These mills to a great extent, if not altogether, appear to have been in the town, and therefore would probably be worked by horses. In 1511 "the comen milne at Ohappel-barr" is mentioned, and in 1531 the mill there (Vol. III., p. 370 of the Records) is recorded as having a rent of 53s. 4d. charged quarterly for it; and "Margaret Styholm for the Maltmyln in 'Berkerigate' end paid quarterly £3 6s. 8d." At that date it is undoubted that these mills must (from the rent paid) have been of some importance, for one pound would then be an equivalent to eight pounds or more at the present time.

I am favoured with the possession not only of a very excellent set of maps of old Nottingham, but also with a variety of fine old views of the town, which, of course, enable anyone to speak with greater certainty in relation to various matters connected with times long passed. On one of each of these (230 years since) a building is shown which crosses the Leen about a third of the distance (as it was then) between the great Leen Bridge (now London-road) and Turncalf-alley (now Sussex-street). The little river is set forth as flowing under it. This without doubt was one of the old water-mills of the town. At that time (1670) there was scarcely a house between the Leen in that part (Canal-street) and Narrow-marsh, which is shown to be filled up with houses, &c., on its southern side, and also on the north side of the Marsh except a short piece at the eastern end.

It is surprising that any of our historians in modern times should appear to almost ignore the existence of windmills in and near Nottingham. At present the only case I have observed of their being referred to is by Blackner, on

p. 33, when incidentally mentioning the races (1815), he says: "The eye is delighted with the sports of the turf; the soul is swelled with exultation on beholding in front all bounteous Nature presenting her autumnal tribute; while in the rear thirteen windmills are preparing food for the use of man."

OLD NOTTINGHAM.

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

II.

In the Chamberlain's accounts for 1504 there is an item referring to "the Brige at the Maltmylne." In this case, therefore, it was doubtless a "water mill" near a bridge. There is still in Nottingham a thoroughfare called Malt Mill-lane. I believe that it connects Narrow-marsh at its western end with what is or was known even in recent years as Leen-side. (The little river was arched over there in 1829.) It is therefore probable that "the Brige at (and) the Maltmylne were in this neighbourhood, though there were, I believe, three "maltmylnes" in the old town.

On reference to the Borough Records, Vol. IV., p. 287, there is a somewhat singular application from Sir Jarvys Clyfton to the Town Council for the possession of the Trent Mills, dated October 12th, 1607, as follows:—"Sir Jarvys Clyfton hath this day moved to be tenant to the Trent Mills, and hath made these three motions—1, to purchase yem, or secondly to have yem in fee farme, or thirdly to have a lease for 100 years or 200 years; and likewise doth desier to have some tymber from ye towne towardes the present repayringe of yem."

At a meeting of the Council fifteen days later—namely, October 27th—we are informed that "Yt vs agreed by all the company except John Stanley that a lease shall be granted in reversion; of the Trent Mills to Sir Jarvys Clyfton, Knight, for 21 years without fyne, or for 40 years for £20 fyne; reserving the rent of £20 per annum, and havinge a care for the preservinge of the weare (wear) hereafter; and lykewyse having a care to except such things as are in Henry Fisher's possession, and that the Burgesses may have theyr ancyent freedom there for landinge, wharfinge, passinge with theyr goodes, in, to, and through the said growndes, as frely as heretofore they have had." This appears to have been a strange

proceeding on the part of Sir Jarvys Clyfton, and had probably some special circumstances attached to it, though not mentioned in the Borough Records.

In Vol. IV., p. 303, of the Records, and on July 10th, 1612, when clearing the streets and roads of the town preparatory to the first visit of King James I., incidental mention is made of "the Windmill hill passage," and on p. 445 we are told that it was in the Clayfield east of the Beck. Possibly a windmill once stood upon that hill.

In the Records, Vol. V., p. 392, 1696, September 18th, there is the following entry:—"Memorandum that on this day Master Mayor sealed a Lease of the watercorne mills on the Leene, and other things to Master John Rosse, Master Benjamine Green, and Master Samuel Watkinson, for ninety-nine years," &c., &c. This is sufficient to show or explain the sort of power which our ancestors chiefly made use of several centuries since for grinding purposes, and that after 1535 there does not appear to be in the Records any direct reference to windmills at Nottingham as being used for probably four hundred years or more.

Respecting windmills for grinding purposes, it may, I think, be safely asserted that there is not one now to be found within the city area; still it is probable that at a moderate distance from Nottingham a mill or two was lately or is still to be seen at work, whose original resting-place is included in its present boundaries. Some cases of removal may perhaps be shortly noticed.

Before entering into particulars respecting the windmills, I desire to acknowledge the valuable assistance which I have received from an old fellow-citizen and neighbour, Mr. William Toyne, who in his younger days was intimately associated with the windmills of the town, and whose personal knowledge respecting them at this distant date is probably unique. He is the son of the late Mr. William Toyne, sen., miller, mentioned in my sixth article, p. 29, as having a mill on the Forest; and I may now state that he was the driver of his father's conveyance, which was loaded with corn and on

its way to the mill, when the axle-tree unfortunately broke in the narrow and only thoroughfare at that period connecting Lister-gate and St. Peter's-square (before the formation of Albert-street). This accident for a short time completely disarranged the traffic of that part of the town.

It is probable that every windmill within and near but outside of the town boundaries 55 years since will be more or less reviewed, and those will be first noticed which were on or close to the Forest top, commencing with the one nearest to Alfreton-road. At the date named the old road was called Forest-side, and for a considerable part of its length followed much the same course which Forest-road now takes, yet not completely so for several hundred yards at the Mansfield-road end.

The large and excellent old official map of the town, together with much of the ground surrounding it, to which I have on previous occasions frequently referred (dated 1827-1829), shows that at the time named the houses on the west side of Mansfield-road at the top were already built, and on arriving at that spot the old Forest-side or road for about 150 yards took a north-westerly direction, which, of course, included a large portion of the moderately level part of the Church Cemetery at the top as now laid out. A sharp turn to the left and south-westward was then taken, and the old part of the road so continued to about where the end of Belmoral-road is now, or the footroad between the posts to get on the Forest near the end of the cemetery, and then continued in a similar direction as at present to Alfreton-road, though in some places, if not in all, the old road was considerably narrower than the new one.

As regards the old Forest-side or road, it should be understood that practically the whole of its northern boundary was Forest land, generally unfenced, with much sand and gorse bushes, and open to the public; whilst on its southern side it was generally fenced with quick-set hedges (a few houses), and good pasture land, hay being grown or made on it in some cases.

From what I have explained respecting the top of Mansfield-road and the course followed by the old road as compared with that of the modern Forest-road, it will be perceived that a portion of the grass fields formerly to the south is now included in the land belonging to the Church Cemetery, in addition to what was once the rough and sandy Forest land, which to a considerable extent was covered with gorse. I do not doubt that the change made by the Commissioners of the Inclosure in the direction or course of Forest-road, as well as its "regulation" in width and level, was greatly to the benefit of the public, though, as compared with the other windmills of the locality, the two nearest to Mansfield-road, if their exact sites could now be pointed out, would appear to be much further on the Forest land than any of the others.

Of the thirteen windmills once on or near to the top of the Nottingham Lings (as formerly named) or the Forest, twelve of them were on the northern or Forest side of the old road, and erected on land which belonged to the town; and one only (a smock mill) on the southern side on private land, and close to the top end of little Lark-dale on the side nearest to Alfretton-road. This would be close to where Ayr-street abuts upon Forest-road in recent times.

The first mill to be noticed stood upon or close to the ground upon which the schools are built which are connected with All Saints' Church. It was owned and occupied by Mr. John Hall, formerly a baker in Lister-gate. The second was a smock mill in a field on the opposite side of the road, and, as remarked, was at the top end of Lark-dale. It was occupied for a number of years by Mr. Richard Annibal, who will be remembered by a many of my older fellow-citizens as a baker at the upper end of Long-row, in an extensive way of business, not more than two doors to the west of the Golden Ball Inn. It was afterwards occupied for a time by Mr. Bonner, of Bobbers-mill, and by him transferred to Mr. Smith, sen., baker, who carried on a large business in Albert-street and at Kegworth. He afterwards worked

it, by steam power for a number of years, until it was burned down. It is thus noticed in the Date-book :—"December 2nd, 1858. The 'old smock mill,' the last of the long line of mills that formerly stood along the brow of the hill on the Forest, burnt down."

It was a brick structure, and situated on the south of Forest-road near to Alfreton-road. No doubt its existence was prolonged in consequence of its being upon private ground. The other mills at that date had probably been removed six or eight years. All the remainder were post windmills.

The third mill was also near to the top or northern end of Little Lark-dale, but on the opposite side of Forest-road or side. A common name for it was Dame Moss's Mill. Several of the mills within their enclosures had houses attached to them, and this was one. The mill and the house were owned by our late well-known fellow-citizen, Mr. William Brewill, many years since a town councillor, and butcher on Angel-row in a large way of business, who was succeeded by Mr. Charles Simpkins, and he by Mr. Armitage, who is still in that locality.

For a time Mr. Brewill occupied the mill-house. The mill was let by him for some years to Mr. Sharp, of whom further mention will be made later on. The last person to occupy it was Mr. William Smith, baker, of Albert-street. The mill was afterwards pulled down and removed to Kegworth by Mr. Smith, and there it may possibly be still in use.

The fourth mill was but a short distance and probably not more than thirty-five or forty yards to the east of the third. It was owned by Mr. W. Wright, whose son, Mr. F. Wright, I am glad to say, is still with us, and resides in the neighbourhood of the Forest. This mill was occupied by the late Mr. Sharp to the time of his death, and by his successors until its removal.

The fifth mill was owned and occupied by Mr. William Toyne, son, late of Toll House-hill (Derby-road), Nottingham, whom I remember from my early boyhood. I am much indebted to his son, Mr. William Toyne, for his

exceptional knowledge and assistance in relation to the windmills. This mill once stood at Upton, Nottinghamshire, and, being purchased by the late Mr. William Toyne, was removed by him to Nottingham, and fixed on the ridge of the Forest, where he afterwards occupied it for a number of years. To most it will be interesting to be informed that at the time when the mills generally disappeared from the Forest-top, this one soon after demolition was taken to Blidworth, near Mansfield, and again brought into use.

The sixth mill: Respecting colour this mill was black; though as regards paint it was rather from its absence than its use. It was owned and occupied by Mr. John Johnson, who was a native of Gotham, near which village the mill at one time stood, when, having come into Mr. Johnson's possession, he removed it to Nottingham, and, by arrangement with the town authorities, it was erected on the Forest. He was familiarly and commonly known as Jack Johnson, and was a member of the South Notts. Yeomen Cavalry, to which fact he attached much importance. I have a vivid recollection of seeing him in his military costume with others on a number of occasions many years since when they were called up for drill, and he was far from being the youngest of those answering to their names.

When out riding he ordinarily wore top-boots and spurs, which caused him to be greatly noticed. He owned a horse which had been in his possession many years, and was said to have been given him by Mr. John Bonner, who was also a miller, but at Old Radford, and whose name has already been referred to. This horse was regularly used for ordinary business purposes, as well as for riding or occasionally driving, but after the lapse of years it was considered from its age to be incapable of carrying out the duties required from it, and settled that it should be sold.

In a brief period, according to the common report at the time (about 60 years since), Mr. Johnson took the horse to Mansfield Fair, which was being held at the time, and shortly after his arrival succeeded in selling it. He

was then anxious to purchase a younger and more suitable animal for his purpose, but was unable to see one which accorded with his wishes, and after long waiting, with some "drinking," it was almost decided that he would have to return home unaccompanied by a horse; but just before his proposed time of departure he saw one which appeared to approach much nearer to his desires in size, &c., than any he had previously observed in the fair. He went to the horse and examined it, and after the usual pros and cons, believing it to be a good-tempered, suitable animal, he purchased it. The horse gained his good opinion by its quietness and in readily adapting itself to his rather unsteady mode of riding.

In due course he arrived at his house on the Forest, where without difficulty it made itself at home, and walked to the ordinary place to drink or for some sort of recognition by a member of the household; but the suspicions of the family were thoroughly aroused when the horse went direct to the place in the stable which had been vacated in the morning, and they declared that the same animal had returned with its master which he had taken to the fair. This he at first indignantly denied. The effect of the liquor imbibed had, however, by this time much lessened, and after a careful examination they soon found all the indelible marks of the old horse upon the one brought back, and that white spots had been blackened, its long tail considerably shortened, its mane, heels, and coat clipped, hoofs furbished, &c., so as to disguise it as much as possible.

The success of this trickery and scheming was quite evident by Mr. Johnson being so thoroughly deceived, for rumour said that he gave fully three times the amount in the afternoon for the horse what he received for it in the morning. There is a moral attaching to the case and many others when transacting business: It is far better not to be under the influence of strong drink. This incident at the time of its occurrence and for years afterwards was a common subject of conversation in the town.

OLD NOTTINGHAM.

ITS STREETS. PEOPLE. &c.

III.

On the north-west side of Waverley-street, where it abuts upon the Forest-road, is a row of good-sized bow-windowed houses, which were probably built about forty years since, by the late Mr. Thomas Fish, at the western end of which (that is the nearest to Alfreton-road) there still remains one of the old houses (two storeys) which were formerly connected with the Windmills. It has no doubt undergone a considerable amount of renovation since they disappeared from the Forest, but previous to these changes Mr. John Johnson had resided in it for many years with his family.

It was on this ground where the stable stood to which the old horse returned after its adventures at the fair. At the present time the ground attached to the house is several feet above the road, but this was caused about fifty years since in regulating and levelling that now important thoroughfare. The house being on the southern side of the road was not held under the Corporation, but stood upon lammass land.

The Mr. Bonner mentioned will be well remembered by many of the older people of the city, and especially those residing in or frequenting the western outlets of the town about fifty years since. When health permitted I think he must have come to Nottingham every Saturday on his nag, and also at other times; and as it appeared just as often in the evening he could have been seen riding his horse homewards, but almost invariably showing unmistakable signs of his having quaffed something of much greater potency than ginger-beer.

On many occasions I and others have watched him passing up Derby-road when it appeared dangerous for him to be mounted, the lurch and rolling at times being so extreme. The horse must have been a very quiet one.

and well broken in to its master's ways, for, though much feared, I never heard of an accident from this cause. I think I can safely say that he had the good wishes of all who knew him as an honourable, kind-hearted man, likely to be greatly missed by many at his death.

The next windmill to be considered is the seventh from Alfreton-road. As regards situation, it was on or close to the rear of the ground now occupied by the Congregational Institute, which not only faces to the south on the Forest road, but also abuts upon the south-west corner of Mount Hooton-road. It was, I understand, owned by a gentleman named Barradell, of Nottingham, and occupied for a number of years by Mr. William Rowland, once living in York-street, but many years afterwards at Hyson Green.

He was a member of the South Notts. Yeomen Cavalry, and, in addition, kept a couple of racehorses. On the conclusion of his tenancy the mill was then used by Mr. Benjamin Spencer, who lately died, at the age of 91, in Goldsmith-square, Goldsmith-street; and with him probably passed away the last of those who once occupied a windmill on the top of the Forest.

A Mr. Carlile afterwards bought this mill (No. 7), and removed it into the Vale of Belvoir, where it still remains. It has no doubt been seen on numerous occasions by cycle riders and others when going to Redmile or Belvoir Castle. For many years I have frequented this road, and, when turning off to the right towards Barkstone, repeatedly passed the gateway close to this memento of times long passed. On inquiry I found that the mill is still owned and occupied by a descendant of Mr. Carlile, and one bearing the same name. It is on an elevation to the right immediately after passing Redmile Station, and full half a mile before reaching the village.

No. 8.—This mill was nearly opposite to the top of the Bowling-alley (now Waverley-street), but rather lower down on the Forest than most of the others. It was owned and occupied by Mr. William Dickinson, who was a baker residing on the north side at the upper end of

Goose-gate. He was a native of Newark, and purchased the mill there. It was then brought by him to Nottingham, and erected on the Forest. After his decease it was for a time in the possession of Messrs. Taylor Brothers, and subsequently, until the time of its demolition, occupied by Mr. William Streets (Billy), a man of extra stature, and at that time living in Pelican-street, New Radford. There is no record of its final resting-place. Perhaps there may still be a few of my aged fellow-citizens who will remember or have heard that a former occupier of this mill many years since hung himself in it.

No. 9.—This windmill was once opposite to where the Forest-road post-office is now situated; that is rather nearer Alferton-road than the western side of the High School grounds. It was formerly known as Bailey's Mill, from a previous occupier, who also lived in a house on the ground. This house still remains, though it has no doubt since undergone much change. Our old and respected fellow-citizen, Mr. Charles Dodsley, occupied it for many years, and if that is not the case at the present time, he still resides close to it, but on the mound where this mill once stood.

At the close of Mr. Bailey's tenancy it was occupied by Mr. Thomas Mackley, to whom, on the night of the 27th of April, 1842, a terrible fatality occurred. He was at work in the mill when, from some cause unknown, a portion of his clothes became entangled in the machinery. A youth who assisted him, hearing his screams, immediately stopped the mill, when he was extricated and taken to the General Hospital; but his injuries were of such a serious character as to cause his death the same night (aged 53 years). He was interred in Old Radford Churchyard, where there is a stone erected to his memory.

His successor in the mill was Mr. William Wyles (Billy). He resided for many years in the New-yard, Parliament-street, where he sold flour, wholesale and retail. Others occupied the mill after him, but there is no further record respecting it after demolition.

No. 10.—This mill was owned and occupied

by Mr. William Sharp, who has been previously mentioned. He resided on Mansfield-road. It has an eventful history in connection with the riots of 1831 and the burning of the Castle. The mob visited it, with other places, and, after throwing out the corn, &c., attempted to set it on fire. The sails and various other portions of the structure were much damaged, but on the military approaching the mob soon dispersed.

Mr. Sharp afterwards let the mill, and the tenant occupied it for a number of years. When pulled down it was removed to Farndon, near Newark, and re-erected on the east of the turnpike a short distance up the road leading to Hawton. Here it remained about forty years, or probably within about ten years of the present time, when it was taken down. Its ordinary name in the locality was "The Nottingham Mill."

No. 11.—This mill is one of the three once standing upon ground which is now included in the Church Cemetery. It was the greatest distance from Mansfield-road of those on that ground, but probably a little eastward of the end of Balmoral-road where it abuts upon Forest-road. Many years since it was purchased from Mr. Hind by Mr. Thomas Toyne, of Alfreton-road, New Radford, from whom it descended to his son, William Toyne, who afterwards disposed of it to his brother, Mr. Samuel Toyne, baker, of Back-lane (now Wollaton-street), who occupied it for a number of years.

It was subsequently purchased by Mr. Widowson, farmer and miller, of Kimberley, and removed by him to that place about 1852, and, being re-erected, was once more used, but unfortunately he did not occupy it long in its new position, as a few years afterwards it was burned down.

No. 12.—This is another and the middle mill of the three once standing upon ground now forming a portion of the Church Cemetery. In character and value this mill would rank very high, for it was not only superior in size and useful qualifications to the others on the Forest, but of its kind would probably surpass any

near to the town. Twelve of those once standing on the top of the Forest, including this, were post windmills, and one, as specified before, was a smock mill, making thirteen in that locality.

More than seventy years since this mill was occupied and probably owned by Mr. Thomas Bissill, of Chapel-bar (1832), where I can distinctly remember him when occupying premises which were, I believe, the next above the Black Bull Inn. They were very old fashioned, with a tiled roof and lead-light windows—as in those of an ordinary house of that date—for it had not been altered into a shop. I also have a perfect recollection, when the front door was open, of seeing the men at work making bread in a back room. He was succeeded in the mill, together with the bakehouse, by Mr. John Wood, who appears to have occupied both for a number of years.

The next to occupy the mill was Mr. William Voce, once a baker on Mansfield-road, at the corner of Chatham-street, and its last occupant at Nottingham. He was an old acquaintance, and it is probably about eight years since he died at an advanced age. Near the commencement of last century this mill was erected at a cost of one thousand pounds (£1,000). At the time when the Forest was cleared of the mills (approximately fifty years since) it was sold for removal and taken into Sussex, near Brighton. Under such circumstances there will not be much surprise that it only realised about one hundred pounds.

In the Church Cemetery, on or near to the spot where it once stood, a granite headstone has been erected in memory of William Oakland, who during a long course of years was the working assistant to several of its occupiers. The stone has been cut to represent a windmill upon it. He died in 1887, leaving few, if any, surviving him who had so long occupied such a post in one of the Nottingham windmills.

No. 13.—This is the third and last of the windmills once standing on ground which now forms part of the Church Cemetery, and of those on the top of the Forest. It was also the one nearest to Mansfield-road. For many

years its owner and occupier was Mr. Samuel Scottorn, formerly of Cotgrave, from whence many of that name have sprung. It was probably worked by him until the period when most of the mills were pulled down, or about fifty years since.

Of the thirteen mills mentioned as being on or near to the Forest-top, seven turned towards the right and six to the left, which to many had a strange appearance, and occasionally it was jokingly accounted for that some must be grinding, whilst others were "ungrinding."

OLD NOTTINGHAM.

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

IV.

Reference will now be made to two other windmills which also in former times were situated within the old town or borough boundaries. In article 31, page 188, I have very briefly referred to the twenty-one which were in and near to the town, and I wish to commence this communication by bringing under notice the two just mentioned.

They were in the vicinity of the open space on the top of Derby-road. The first noticed will be the one near to the north-western end of Ropewalk-street. It was level with and close to the ground on which the old Waterworks Company erected the pumping station many years back in that locality. Between seventy and eighty years since, and probably rather earlier, this mill was owned and occupied by Mr. Edward Chimley, of Derby-road, and was usually known by his name.

He afterwards transferred it to Mr. Richard Annibal, who in 1832 was a baker on Derby-road, and he probably occupied it previous to entering upon the tenancy of the one first mentioned on the top of the Forest, though he seems to have been the last to employ this one, for it was afterwards sold to Mr. Hardmett, by whom it was pulled down and removed to Ruddington. It was the first mill in Nottingham to which spring sails were affixed, which in appearance are somewhat the same as Venetian blinds.

The second mill in this neighbourhood was also on elevated ground on the northern side and at the top end of Back-lane, now considerably widened and renamed Wollaton-street. Practically the whole of the northern side of Back-lane at that period was composed of fields, the hedges of which for the greater portion formed a boundary to that thoroughfare. There was no Talbot-street, &c., at that time, but the road to the mill was through an or-

dinary gate near the top point of the field and close to the end house on the front of the General Cemetery. It was owned by Mr. Wright, once of Timber-hill, but afterwards called South-parade.

It was at one period occupied by Mr. Samuel Flewitt, baker, of Bridlesmith-gate; and afterwards by Mr. John Thorpe, baker, Pelham-street. There were three windmills in the borough sixty years since which had but one pair of stones working in them, and this was one of that number, the other two being amongst those which have been mentioned on the Forest. For such a class of mills this was of a good size. It was purchased for removal, and taken to Ashover, in the county of Derby, and about seven miles from Chesterfield.

At Sneinton, and not far from the upper side of the church, there was recently, or still is, a thoroughfare known as Windmill-lane, which leads to the high ground in that part, and near to it about fifty years since were two post windmills, the approach to which was from the lane. The first to be reached when going up the hill was in a field to the left, and probably 400 yards from the bottom of the lane. It was for many years occupied by Mr. George Parkins, baker, who at one time carried on an extensive business at the lower end of Goose-gate. It was probably in his possession until the time of its removal. He was a well-known man in the town, being for a long time a member of the Council and also of the Board of Guardians. I was well acquainted with him. He died at an advanced age, probably about fifteen years since.

A little higher up the lane, but in a field on the opposite side, was another mill, which for many years was occupied by John Bennett, and known as Bennett's Mill, but the last in possession of it was the late William Oakland, who has been previously mentioned as being connected with and assisting at the largest post mill on the Forest. This mill also had a pair or set of patent sails similar to the one at the top of Back-lane (Wollaton-street).

The third windmill at Sneinton was a smock mill, rather more eastward than the others,

and probably on ground not quite so high, the way of approach being almost opposite to the eastern end of the churchyard. The tower still remains, and is of a good height and no doubt solidly built. In former years it was commonly known by the name of Green's Mill. For a considerable period it was occupied by Mr. George Fletcher, once residing in Beck-street (1832).

Its last occupant was William Oakland, who has previously been referred to. He lived in the house attached to the mill, which, with the other section of the premises, were of good proportions. From its size it is probable that there were four pairs of stones in it, besides other necessary machinery usually to be found in a well-fitted mill. In many respects it would probably match with the large one he so long worked in upon the Forest.

He would undoubtedly have been pleased to have remained here if possible, but unfortunately there was a dispute respecting the ownership of the property, and neither of the parties thereto would become responsible for repairs; therefore the mill, &c., gradually got into an untenable condition, and he was reluctantly compelled to give up possession. Having the opportunity at this time to become tenant of the upper mill in Windmill-lane, he took advantage of it and removed there.

I believe the two mills which I have just mentioned to have been the last windmills there worked in or close to Nottingham. It appears certain that the top one in the lane must have been in use at least ten years after most of those on the Forest, &c., had been removed, as in Wright's Directory of 1862, amongst the millers we find "Oakland, W., Sneinton-hill, Old Sneinton," and at that date he was no doubt the only person left who was occupying a windmill so near to Nottingham.

The old brick tower at Sneinton is, I believe, all that remains of the twenty-one windmills which, within the memory of many still living besides myself, were once occupied and working in and near to Nottingham. Its position causes it to be a conspicuous object in some directions, though a close examination shows

that time has told heavily against it. If there had been no contention respecting ownership about fifty years since, there is, as regards the character and quality of the mill itself, no apparent reason why it should not have continued working to the present time. It must originally have been a very costly undertaking.

For a considerable period it may, I think, be truly asserted that windmills have gradually been disappearing in the country generally; but if the Royal Agricultural Society succeed in carrying out what they were proposing in the early part of this year, it is quite possible that there may be a return, for other purposes, to this original mode of obtaining power.

On 3rd of February last the following announcement appeared in the "Daily News":—"Windmills Wanted for Pumping." "The Royal Agricultural Society of England are offering prizes of £50 and £10 for windmills for pumping purposes. The trials will be held on the London showground, and will commence on Monday, March 1st, and continue, at the discretion of the judges, until April 30th. The wind engines will run and be under continual observation for ten hours each day, when the wind velocity and horse-power developed will be noted."

I propose to say something further respecting "mills" in and near to Nottingham, but of a character very different to those above mentioned. We have authority for asserting that the first cotton mill in the world was erected in our old town; but in saying this it will be better not to be led away by our imaginations as regards many of such buildings in modern times, for in the beginning the structures were of very humble proportions.

The first person to be mentioned is James Hargreaves, the inventor of the "spinning jenny." He was residing at Blackburn, and his invention made it possible for one of the workpeople to make eight threads as easily as one had been made on former occasions (see Date Book), which proportion was afterwards greatly increased. Directly the information got abroad that he had invented such a labour-saving machine, an ignorant and infuriated mob,

composed chiefly of persons engaged in that employment, broke into his house and destroyed his model. This abominable treatment was shortly afterwards repeated when the Blackburn rabble not only broke into Hargreave's house, but into the houses of most of those who had adopted his machines, which were everywhere proscribed.

In consequence of this continued persecution he removed to Nottingham. Here he constructed and patented a new jenny to spin eighty-four threads at once, but by infringements, piracies, &c., others obtained the benefit more than himself. With the assistance of Mr. Thomas James, he built a small factory at the top of Mill-street. In a note we are informed that "the structure stands at the north-east corner of Mill-street, Wollaton-street, and is of a very unpretending character." It was converted into small dwelling-houses.

The house in which Mr. Hargreaves lived was situated on the opposite side of the street. Mr. Thos. James's son John died in the Lambley Hospitals, lately upon Toll House-hill (Derby-road), 29th April, 1836, at the advanced age of 92 years, and remembered Mr. James Hargreaves well, who died 22nd April, 1778, aged 60 years. I have a thorough remembrance of Mill-street and that part of the town from my early boyhood (70 years since), and delight at intervals to renew my acquaintance with the old places.

When walking up Wollaton-street a few years back I saw, with much surprise and disgust, that another street name recalling memories so interestingly associated with Nottingham of the last century but one had been absurdly and inconsiderately changed from Mill-street to Bow-street. We know of Bow-street in London, but as applied here it is unmeaning and ridiculous, but especially when it robs us of a title so long in use, and descriptive of what had once been carried out or had occurred in the street.

Mr. T. C. Hine, F.S.A., in his "Nottingham Castle," page 30, when speaking of the year 1767, also says the "First cotton mill in the world (was) built at Nottingham, in a passage

called Mill-street, leading into Wollaton-street, by Hargreaves, of which a portion still remains."

The thoroughfare is a small one, but it is connected with a matter which is exceedingly great, and this change of name is as perfectly uncalled for and objectionable as the renaming of Outgang-road and entitling it Hartley-road. In both instances those most inexperienced or having a very imperfect knowledge have been unwisely allowed to prevail, and old place names which intimately connect us with olden times are recklessly obliterated for what is worthless, from being entirely out of character with former events. If impartial justice be meted out, both of these old but most suitable and descriptive titles will be restored at once.

OLD NOTTINGHAM.

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

V.

In previous articles reference was concluded to the last of the fifteen windmills which formerly stood and were in the borough of Nottingham; and also of three in Sneinton Parish. I shall end this narrative with an account of three on Sherwood-rise, in Basford Parish, and saying that these parishes and others were by Act of Parliament included in the borough, July 11th, 1877.

Two of the windmills on Sherwood-rise were to the left when ascending the hill, and near to where Beech-avenue is now formed. The first was about two hundred yards from the road, and the other a little further. The first was owned and occupied by Mr. Edward Cooper, who was eccentric in character, and commonly known as Neddy Cooper. He carried on the trade of a baker in Milton-street, opposite to Trinity Church. At that time the shop was a step or two below the level of the road.

Having given up corn-grinding, he decided to sell the mill, if possible, but no customer appearing in a short time, and having an offer for the mill stones, he parted with them; but this proved to be unfortunate, as it afterwards prevented the sale of the mill as a whole. He therefore pulled it down, and disposed of the material to anyone needing it. A few places could still be pointed out in the city where the oak from that old mill was used more than fifty years since for gateposts, beams, &c.

It will be interesting to some for the fact to be recorded that this mill once stood upon the Forest-top. It was between those belonging to Mr. John Hall and "Dame Moss," and rather nearer Alfreton-road than the upper end of Little Larkdale.

The second mill on Sherwood-rise (and near to the first) was owned and occupied by Mrs. Mary Reddish, a respected lady of New Bas-

ford. She had three sons connected with the millering business. One was Mr. William Reddish, of Bobbers Mill. The second was Mr. Paul Reddish, who occupied that well-known smock mill which cyclists and many others when out have so often seen at the top of the elevated ground near East Bridgford, where it is a noted landmark to an extensive circle of the country. The third son remained at home and worked the mill for his mother until the time came for its removal.

The next and third mill was on the opposite or eastern side of Sherwood-rise, as compared with the others. It was most likely in poor condition at the period of its demolition, for it had been unoccupied a number of years.

In Article No. 33, when referring to the fourth windmill on the Forest from Alfreton-road, I say that it was owned by Mr. F. Wright, which is an error, as it was the property of Mr. William Wright, Mr. F. Wright being his son. This inaccuracy was pointed out, and I am glad to correct it.

Another cotton mill was also built in Nottingham at a very early period as regards that business; in fact, the editor of the Date Book asserts that "this" was the first to be constructed in the world, though from the particulars obtainable others think that the facts are much more favourable to the one in Mill-street being first erected than to what is under consideration, for Hargreaves came a year the earliest. The one under consideration was on a piece of ground between Woolpack-lane and Hockley, and the prominent name associated with it was that of Richard Arkwright, the inventor of the spinning frame, who resided previously at Preston, Lancashire, and removed to Nottingham in 1768.

It is probable that at a similar time both Hargreaves and Arkwright were engaged in perfecting their inventions, and without doubt each for its purpose was eminently useful and appropriate. Unfortunately for Hargreaves, from various regrettable circumstances he reaped but little benefit personally from his contrivance, though of vast importance; whilst Arkwright, who commenced in equally humble circum-

stances, is said, with every probability of truth, to have accumulated a fortune of about five hundred thousand pounds before his death. In 1786 he became High Sheriff of Derbyshire, and was knighted.

His son, Mr. Richard Arkwright, succeeded him, and with such a foundation for a fortune, and being a keen business man, it is not very surprising that at the time of his decease at Willersley Castle, in 1843, he was probably the richest individual in the British Isles, for he appears to have possessed nearly seven millions sterling, without including his landed estates, &c.

There was one line in his will which in character was most laconic, though in value probably disposing of more than had ever previously been the case in so short a phrase. It was as follows:—"I bequeath to my son-in-law, Sir W. Wigram, one million sterling." Allowing for the sixty years which have since elapsed, and the much greater proportionate value of money at that date than the present, it was an enormous sum.

For many years the Arkwrights' gains upon cotton were very large, and there was most likely much truth in the statement that for a considerable period they reaped a profit of more than a shilling where those in the business at the present time would be thankful to obtain from a halfpenny to a penny.

It will be noted above that Richard Arkwright came to Nottingham a year later than James Hargreaves (1767), and the impelling motive was in each case the same—the threats by and the fear of an attack from the unthinking rabble in Lancashire, who boldly stated that the result of their inventions would be sure to lessen the opportunities of gaining a living by the people. Both men upon their arrival were practically without means of their own. Hargreaves shortly after reaching here became acquainted with Mr. Thomas James, who was a resident of Nottingham, having a moderate freehold, and they entered into partnership and erected the small structure in Mill-street, or, as recently and senselessly renamed, Bow-street.

Hargreaves was a mechanic, and could himself execute most or all the work connected with his models and inventions. This Arkwright was compelled to get done by others. He was at first much impeded in his labours from insufficiency of capital, and recommended to apply to Mr. Jedediah Strutt, whose knowledge of mechanics would enable him to judge as to the probability of the invention being successful. Mr. Strutt immediately observed that Arkwright's proposed system was an immense improvement upon the old methods, and required but little to make it complete. The latter then appears to have become a partner in the firm of Messrs. Strutt and Need.

Shortly afterwards Arkwright commenced the erection of a mill on some ground at the lower end of Goose-gate, and between there and Woolpack-lane, being almost opposite the lower end of Coalpit-lane, and on or near the site of the present Hockley Mill. The power for working the mill was supplied by or derived from horses, which proved a costly mode; and as steam power was then practically unknown he was obliged to look out for other means to carry on the business, and built a much larger mill at Cromford, where he succeeded in obtaining water power, and in 1771 removed there.

He was a man of indomitable energy and perseverance, who for many years could be found attending to his work from early morning until late at night. His partnership with Mr. Strutt continued until 1783, and in concluding it they mutually agreed that the mill at Cromford should become the property of Mr. Arkwright, and that the works at Belper should be owned by Mr. Strutt. Unfortunately for Nottingham, the two important inventions connected with the machinery for making cotton which have been mentioned were before the time when much was known respecting steam power, otherwise there can be little doubt that the manufacture of cotton would have become an important trade and source of employment in the town.

As regards the inventions of Hargreaves and Arkwright, it is certain that each allowed of

greatly increased facilities in the manufacture of cotton, and I think that all will agree that it was becoming and desirable that the name of "Arkwright" should be used as the title of the comparatively new but main thoroughfare from the town to the Trent Bridge, &c. This choice of an appellation belongs to a class which unfortunately in recent years is small in number, for it is one with old associations and keeps the past in remembrance, which all antiquaries will rejoice in.

There is yet more to be mentioned respecting Hargreaves. He has been most shabbily treated, for though deserving well of the town in having erected the first known cotton mill in it, there is now nothing, as far as I am aware, of any kind whatever allowed to remain which will associate him with the city by name or otherwise after the street with which he was so closely connected had, without proper consideration or just cause, its old title cancelled.

I have strongly protested against the recent abolition of various very old historic names—such as Outgang-lane or road, Longhedge-lane or road, &c.—which was a great blunder committed by some one or more known to the Council, which is rendered more objectionable by appellations being bestowed upon them of persons who in Nottingham are practically unknown. Why, I would ask, has the name of Hargreaves never been given to any important street or thoroughfare of the city, seeing that he so richly deserves it? Numerous other old names of persons might be mentioned whose claims for remembrance are immeasurably greater than many which are selected.

I have previously remarked that in olden times the open space which we now entitle "St. Peter's-square" had no distinguishing name, and that when described it was nearly as follows:—"That piece of waste land to the west of St. Peter's Churchyard, and at the lower end of Wheeler-gate and Hounds-gate." Even in Deering's History, dated 1751, when examining the index, which is certainly a good one, brought out by Mr. Rupert C. Chicken, F.R.C.S., in 1899, I did not see any reference to St. Peter's-

square as such : therefore, according to that, it must have been sometime after 1751 before it had a designation.

We have in Nottingham (following the old mode of describing various places) another "piece of waste (?) ground," considerably larger than St. Peter's-square, in a part of the city where there is much traffic, for seven thoroughfares of various sorts, but all for ordinary vehicles, run into it; yet, strange to say, and I believe the statement to be true, it has never had a distinguishing name. It is the open space at the top of Toll House-hill (Derby-road), and in front of the entrance to the General Cemetery. If no other prominent place is found, would it not be paying "a debt of honour" long due to call it "Hargreaves-square"?

I think all, when fully aware of the particulars, will agree that it is. Though there is still another "waste piece of ground" in an exceedingly throng part of the city, which also I believe to be larger than St. Peter's-square, and unto which in the fitness of things it would really be the most suitable place in Nottingham to attach a noted local name, for, like the other and larger one mentioned, I believe no title has ever been applied to it, and this is the open space containing the Walter Fountain, into which run Lister-gate, Greyfriars-gate, and, I might say, Stanford-street, also Carrington-street and Broad-marsh.

The designation of "Hargreaves-square," if applied to it, would be most appropriate; and respecting the large open space at the front of the General Cemetery, as three main roads commence there to Derby, Ilkeston, and Alfreton, and also to keep our oldest title in mind, I would recommend that it be called "Outgang-square."

OLD NOTTINGHAM.

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VI.

In my first article (32) of this series Nottingham and Basford Lings are referred to, and in a form that may possibly cause surprise to some, for though Basford is joined in them with the old town (see Borough Records, Vol. V., p. 41), they are described as "lying and being within the precincts and liberties of the town of Nottingham aforesaid." This is announced in the "Exemplification of the Claim of the Mayor and Burgesses to the Forestal Rights, &c. (by charter) and the allowance thereof. September 8th, 1675."

It was "among the pleas of the Forest of Sherwood, held at Mansfield before William Marquis of Newcastle, Justice in Eyre of all the Forests beyond the Trent." Going back from the above date nearly three hundred and twenty years, something occurred which may probably throw light upon the inclusion of Basford with Nottingham.

It appears that an acknowledgment by our forefathers had been given "for Common of Pasture in Basford" (see Records, Vol. I., p. 163), and in 1356, April 30th, the town was released from the payment (6s. 8d.) to Robert de Cockfield, Knight, as follows:—"Whereas the Mayor and Burgesses of the town of Nottingham are bound to me and my heirs in an annual rent of six shillings and eightpence by their writing, sealed with the common seal, for having a common of pasture with all their animals and cattle whatsoever in Basford Wood and in the Lings of the same vill of Basford (which is in the Forest of Sherwood) belonging to me as is more fully contained in the aforesaid writing :

"Know ye that I have for ever granted, remitted, and quit-claimed, for me and my heirs, to the Aforesaid Mayor and Burgesses of the town of Nottingham and their heirs and successors free common of pasture belonging to

me, with all their animals and cattle whatsoever in the vill (village or parish) and places aforesaid, in form aforesaid, and also all my right and claim which I have, had, or by any means could or may have in the aforesaid annual rent of six shillings and eightpence," &c. This, I think, will in a great degree account for the coupling of the two names Nottingham and Basford in connection with the Lings, otherwise Nottingham Forest.

At the end of the release it is very interesting to carefully note the names of all the witnesses (ten or eleven). I propose to Anglicise the French word "de" (meaning of or from), and it will be found that most of them appear to have assumed as surnames the appellation given to the places from which they came—namely, Richard of Willoughby, Knight, Roger Michell, then Sheriff of Nottingham, William of Eland, Richard of Strelley, Stephen of Broxtowe, Hugh Martell, Richard of Stapleford, Robert of Bramcote, William, son of Richard of Beeston, William of Manchester, Robert of Cossall, and others.

The present-day equivalent for the above 6s. 8d. would probably be five or six pounds.

From the Norman conquest not only was the French term "de" constantly used in denoting a surname, but also "le" (the), and each, according to the Borough Records, were more or less frequently employed until A.D. 1400-1410, when they gradually ceased, and a recognised surname was generally adopted.

Applying the English definite article for the French "le," and going back from five to seven hundred years, and generally amongst those connected with the government of the town, the following names will be found, and also many others:—Hugh the Fleming, John the Fleming, Adam the Palmer, Michael the Orfevere (Goldsmith), Walter the Peynter, Richard the Cupper, John the Bere, John the Colier, Ralph the Taverner, Robert the Orfevere, Laurence the Spicer, Roger the Mason, Hugh the Spicer, John the Cupper, &c. Excepting about two, all the above at various dates between A.D. 1285 and 1360 were Mayors of Nottingham, and the others were Bailiffs. At this date no

Sheriffs had been appointed at Nottingham.

It is interesting and somewhat amusing to read what was said and done three hundred years since by the Corporation in connection with the Free School (now High School). On 28th April, 1610 at a meeting they say: "And whereas by an order formerly made, when Maister Lowe was schoolmaster, the Usher's wages were made £12 per annum, and the Headmaster £18 per annum, and so 40s. per annum was taken out of the Master's wages (which were £20 per annum) and added to the Usher's (which were £10 per annum), and this was done then in respect of Maister Lowe's declyninge sufficiency, and that the Usher then was to be most trusted with the discreet government of the said school, and by Maister Lowe's consent, which rate of wages hath stood ever sithence (since); now, forasmuch as this company is well satisfied of the sufficiencie and well deserving of Maister Scoresby, the Headmaster, as hath appeared by tryal of him in the sayd place, therefore they are contented and do order that the said former order shall be voyde, and that now from henceforth the said 40s. per annum shall be fetched back agayne from the Usher and annexed to the Headmaster's wages as of right ytt ought, and that now from henceforth the Master's wages is and shalbe £20 per annum, and the Usher's £10 per annum. And hereto Maister Scoresby and . . . Sully have assented."

The "wages" paid were then entirely different to what is at present the case, but all connected with the school has since been most materially altered, and specially the amount of income, size, and importance of the buildings, and great increase in the number of scholars.

Although, as explained, the schoolmaster's "wages" were very small in 1610, they were considerably less, as shown in the Records, Vol. IV., p. 51, A.D. 1578, when the school wardens, after mentioning other payments, say:—"And £8 6s. 8d. paid to John Depupp, Schoolmaster, for the Salary due to him for the year finished at the feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary, last past, £8 6s. 8d."

On page 57 there is an entry showing that

in 1583 the schoolmaster's wages had been raised to £13 6s. 8d., though as regards the usher, even when full allowance is made for the great difference in the value of money (ten or twelve times more than at present), his remuneration was ridiculously small. The memorandum is next to that of the schoolmaster; it says:—"And £3 paid to the Under-Schoolmaster for his salary for the year."

On p. 235, Vol. IV., of the Records, there is an entry of February 21st, 1592, which says: "Discharge of the Master of the Free School and his examination on a charge of theft"; and "Yt ys agrede yat Maister Cristofer Heyloe, nowe Shoolemaister of the Free Shoole, shall be no longer Shoolemaister there," &c. He appears to have been charged with stealing books.

This is a strange charge to be made against anyone holding a position so responsible, though as regards its seriousness it would have to give place to one made in Vol. III., p. 372, 1532, at the sessions, where it is said: "We present . . . (the) scolemaister for wyffulle murder doone to Ser John Langton"; and at the same time the constables say: "We indyte the Skolle Mayster of welfulle murdar." In a note it is said that a true bill was found against the schoolmaister.

There is evidence that the Free School was already in Stoney-street, A.D. 1613, for the Mickleton Jury said: "We present Stonne Stret to be in dekey for want of pavinge from Saint Maries Church styлле (stile) towards the Free Scolle being warn awaie for want of filling up with earth and pavinge." Respecting the "style," or stile, I hope to say more afterwards.

The present High School (formerly Free Grammar School) was established in 1513 by Dame Agnes Mellers, though from the Borough Records it must not be supposed that it was the first school of its kind, for in Vol. II., p. 13, A.D. 1401, there is an "Enrolment of Grant to the Master of the Grammar School and others." This was "to Sir Robert Fole, Chaplain, master of the Free Grammar School of Nottingham, John Hodyng, John de Lichfield of Nottingham," &c.

In Vol. I., p. 247, an "Enrolment of a Grant from the Executors of William, Son of William de Adbolton, Master of the Grammar School," is noticed. In a note mention is also made of another grant in which William de Adbolton is referred to as "Master of the Grammar Students of Nottingham." The first of the two last enrolments was in 1390, and the last in 1382.

In Vol. III., p. 402, 1512, the year before the first establishment of the present High School, reference is made to a children's school in an account for work done, namely: "Reparacions made by Rychard Halom upon the Ootage boght of Thomas Shyrwod of Notyngham standyng in the Peperstrete at John Howes bak yate. Item for a loode of cley to the tofalle (a penthouse or lean-to) that ye chyldern lern inne 3d. Item, for a bonche of ston lattes to the same hous yat the children lern inne 3d."

In Vol. III., p. 356, A.D. 1522, there is a Report from the Constables at the Sessions, when they say: "We preysent Ye Skolmester for castyng forth they (the) molle (dirt rubbish) off hys skolhows in ye Kynges hywey." They further say: "We presennte alle the bochers sellyng flessch that is nomans meyte; it is keppid so long that it is fulle of magettes."

In the Records, Vol. II., p. 297, A.D. 1478, April 23rd, there was a noticeable presentment at the Sessions. "The Jurors say upon their oath that Robert Alestre, late of Nottingham, in the County of the town of Nottingham, gentleman (?), on Thursday the ninth day of April in the eighteenth year of the reign of King Edward the Fourth, after the Conquest, at Nottingham in the County of the town of Nottingham, with force and arms, to wit, a dagger commonly called in English 'a whin-yard' of the value of 12d. made an assault upon John Hill, and then and there feloniously slew the said John with the aforesaid dagger against the peace of our Lord the King."

In a note at the bottom of the page we are told that: "On May 3rd, 1478, Robert Alestre of Nottingham, gentleman, took sanctuary in Beverley Minster for the death of John Hill, late of Westminster, in the County of Middlesex, yeoman, slain by him at Nottingham on

April 16th (this should be April 9th, according to the above presentment) and was sworn and received into the peace of St. John of Beverley." Poulson's Beverlac, Beverley, 1829, p.249.—There appears to have been no other presentment preserved relating to this case.

The Alestres or Alastres probably first came from Allestree, near Derby. They were a family of considerable note in the town. In 1402-3 John de Alestre was one of the Bailiffs (before there were any Sheriffs). In 1409-10 he was Mayor, and also in 1414-15, in 1420-21, 1426-27, and 1430-31. According to this he must also have been for many years one of the aldermen.

After him, on five occasions ending 1469-70, Thomas Alestre was the Mayor, and in 1485-86 Richard Alestre filled that post, and was, I believe, the last of that name to occupy it. Ninety-eight years later (in 1583) William Allystre or Alestre was living in Henne Crosse (top of the Poultry).

In Article No. 10, p. 51 (first series), I refer to and dispute the statements of Deering and others that the first tiled house in Nottingham was erected on the Long-row in 1503, said to have been the Unicorn Inn, and in further proof of the statement being thoroughly incorrect, there will be found in the Records, Vol. II., p. 391, A.D. 1483 the copy of a bill for repairs at the Crown Inn, which also was on the Long-row, when 12 ridge tiles and 250 other tiles were used, and a tiler is mentioned.

On page 475 the Ram Inn (also on Long-row) is noticed, and that John Mysterton was sued for failing to repair that tenement, in tiling, &c., in 1499. This is conclusive, and there is but little cause for doubting that in the year 1503 there were many tiled houses in Nottingham from the proofs furnished that they had been used at that time for more than one hundred years.

OLD NOTTINGHAM.

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

VII.

I propose in this article to take into consideration a very old thoroughfare in Nottingham which, all considered, in these times may probably not rank very high in public estimation, but, looking back a few hundreds of years, it will be found that the case was very different. I am now referring to Narrow-marsh. The first mention I find of it in the Borough Records is in A.D. 1315, or 588 years since, when there was a transfer of property.

The mode of spelling it varied considerably, for, as before mentioned, our ancestors claimed considerable latitude in that respect. The name on various occasions was written as follows:—Naromershe, Narromershe, Narow Mershe, Lytall Merssh, Littilmerche, Litolmerche, Norrow March, and Narro Marsh. In this case the "Littil," or Little, was no doubt understood to be respecting the width, for in length it was much the greatest.

Our ancestors must, from the bad state of the roads and streets, even in the town, have suffered great inconvenience. Judging by what we read in history, and aided by information derivable from the Records, we have ample evidence that the term "Marsh" was rightly applied, and that as a fact it extended from the west end of Fisher-gate to the north-eastern end of Greyfriars-gate; for, as places where the traffic centred more than elsewhere in those parts, we are frequently told of the abominable state of the road at Bridgend (Plumptre-square) in the east, and at the bottom of Lytster, Littster, or, as now called, Lister-gate in the west.

As a centre of business, and in various other ways, Narrow-marsh in olden times ranked in a marked degree above the average of town thoroughfares in importance. The truth of this assertion is proved from the payments made by the different streets, &c., of the town according to a Subsidy Roll, dated 1523-24, and

granted by Parliament on 15th April. See Records, Vol. III., pp. 162-179 (Time, Henry VIII.). The total collected in the town was £50 6s. 8d., of which more than one-seventh was found by Narrow-marsh.

A large number of tanners were carrying on business in the locality at that period. Deering mentions 36 in 1641 as being masters, and by 1664 they were 47 in number. The assessment for "Chapelbarre" was 11s. 8d.; "Gretsmythgate," £2 9s. 6d.; "Gosegate," 2s. 4d.; "Berkerigate," 2s. 4d.; "Fisshergate," 15s. 2d.; "Narroumershe," £7 13s. 2d.; "Brodmarssh," £3 2s.; "Castelgate," 7s.; "Whelewright Gate," 27s. 4d.; "Tymberhill," £6 3s. 8d.; "Bridel-smith Gate," £2 14s. 8d.; "Lowpament," £8 5s.; "Walsergate," £2 2s. 8d.; "Highpament," £5 11s. 6d.; "Stonistret," 5s. 8d.; "Hencrosse," £3 19s. 6d.; "Frerow," 13s. (Friarow or Beast Market-hill); "Infants," 4s. 4d.

Even at that date the result is somewhat surprising as regards several places, for the amount contributed by "Longrow" was less than one-third of what was paid by "Narroumershe." This is a great contrast to what would probably be the case at the present time, but it will be found that even Broad-marsh in its contributions exceeded Chapelbarre, Gosegate, Berkerigate, Castelgate, Stonistrete, and Whelewright Gate combined by 5s. 8d.

On examining Speed's map of the town dated 1610, it may be seen, as regards buildings, that there is little or nothing between the back of the houses on the south side of Narrow-marsh and the south of the present Leen-side, or even to the canal as now made. In another old map dated 1670, a few scattered houses or other buildings are shown there, but Deering (about 1747, p. 13), in his table of the names of streets, &c., and number of houses and souls in each, says: "North side of the Leen 8 houses (and) 34 souls"; though as shown on his map this would probably be represented in a great measure by some of the houses on the north of the "Leen-side," as now named.

Respecting the tanners, according to Blackner: "In 1661 they began to shackle the trade

by combining to prevent each other from taking apprentices, except on extravagant conditions, a system which is sure in the end to injure the business it is erroneously intended to protect, because Nature is regular in her proceedings, and therefore requires a succession of Youth to fill up the chasms occasioned by old age and death.

"The tanners, likewise, by combining to keep down the prices of hides, skins, and bark, drove the owners thereof to seek other markets and thus completed the ruin of their trade in the town."

He further tells us that "From the great number of 'horn snuffs,' and old vats which have been frequently found, it is pretty evident that near the whole of the ground between Turncalf Alley (Sussex Street) and Bridge Street has been occupied by the tanners, and fellmongers, the vats appertaining to both."

This is very interesting, and to a considerable extent I can testify to its correctness. It has been a pleasure to me during recent years, if excavations were made in the neighbourhood mentioned, to visit them for the purpose of observing what might be seen or cast out; though this was specially the case when the Great Central and Great Northern Railway Companies were constructing their railways to or from Victoria Station, and in the part between Narrow-marsh and the canal.

I then saw a large number of horns, &c., belonging to cattle which were found in the holes excavated for the concrete and brickwork to carry the arches and girders. I very frequently examined most of them as the work progressed, and was surprised to see many matters belonging to animals and connected with tanners and fellmongers turned up at a depth even of about ten feet or more below the present level of the ground. It was also very noticeable in this part that the subsoil was generally very black. I said and believed that much of the spare soil would have made excellent manure.

The brickwork or concrete for carrying the arches of the viaducts had to be taken down to a thick bed of gravel in the marshy and meadow

land, the depth of which varied considerably. There were three of these places to which, for different reasons, I gave special attention. The first was the excavation for the brickwork, &c., close to the south side at the west end of Narrow-marsh on which one end of the iron girders rest.

On the northern side of the Marsh the foundation is on the rock, and I had often wondered whether the rocky cliff which is on that side terminated abruptly or otherwise.

I think any doubt connected with that question is now fully settled, as no rock was found within ten or twelve yards south of the cliff; nor did they even find a solid bed of gravel until the hole had been sunk nearly thirty feet, which was far more than the average and considerably lower than any other place I noticed.

The two other excavations were for the brickwork to carry the arch which spans the canal. The one on the northern side was about the average depth of probably twelve to fifteen feet, when the gravel bed was reached, but the material thrown out was to a large extent thoroughly black, which also applied to other sinkings near but rather more northwards; and though at that part the excavations were on the south of the Leen they were close to its old course. Here, also, many horns, &c., of cattle were to be seen amongst the refuse. The very black character of the soil may possibly have been caused by its being impregnated with the chemicals, &c., of the old tanyards.

I admit having rather wandered from "Lytall Marsh" or "Littilmerche," though not from the marshy ground of olden times. By way of contrast I will now refer to the hole dug out for the foundation of the brickwork sustaining the arch over the canal on its southern side. In this case the subsoil appeared to be clear of any impregnation whatever, and in its natural state; it really might have been called "clean" as compared with other cases mentioned, many of which had the appearance of filth, and it was a relief to be clear of such an objectionable locality or portion of the work.

In returning to Narrow-marsh I wish to re-

mark that about eighty-five years since an attempt was made to change its name to "Red Lion-street." It is more than passing strange why such an alteration should have been desired, for there was nothing about the town, as far as I am aware, that ought to have influenced the choice of such an appellation. It is true that about 1818-1820 there were two public-houses, if not three, in the town each of which was called "The Red Lion"; one of them was, and I believe, still is in the Marsh, another was once near to its eastern end, and a third in Pelham-street.

It is hard to believe that this fact would be considered of sufficient importance with the public to cause them to wish for such an alteration. I certainly cannot say that I have at present seen anything officially pointing to the Corporation as authorising or ordering the change; though, as I shall presently show, an endeavour was undoubtedly made to cause one.

It occasionally happens in anomalous and unusual cases that information may be obtained from sources which by many would be unthought of. In this instance I turned to lists of the Burgesses and Freeholders (of Nottingham) who polled at the elections of 1818 and 1820, and from them I obtained the knowledge required.

In the first-named election there were very few voters living in Narrow-marsh who did not mention that old name in the poll booth when asked where they resided; whereas at the election of 1820 there was a complete change, as by far the greater number of voters on that occasion when questioned respecting the place of their abode gave it as being in "Red Lion-street." Still, there are certain circumstances which, I think, point strongly to the probability of this attempted change being made by private individuals, and not by the Corporation or Council.

In Article 13 I have given an account of the mode adopted by "a would-be" Parliamentary representative to change the title of the place he lived in from "Back-side" to "Parliament-street," and I consider it most likely that similar means were adopted in relation to

"Narrow-marsh" in an endeavour to have it designated "Red Lion-street." (This more or less applies also as regards a change to what we now term "Plumtre-square.")

I can remember people in my younger days speaking of "Red Lion-street," though I look upon it as having no official sanction, and generally it was called Narrow-marsh at that date. In the large map of the town (before mentioned) brought out by the town surveyor under the auspices of the Corporation about seventy-five years since, there is no reference whatever to "Red Lion" as regards either Narrow-marsh or Plumtre-square.

White, in his *Directory of Nottingham* (1832) and in the list of thoroughfares, &c., p. 213, says:—"Red Lion-street is now Narrow-marsh, the original name"; and Dearden, in his *Directory* of 1834, makes the same remark respecting it. It will be seen that the alteration of the term did not last long, and that, fortunately, the town retained one of its noted and distinctive old titles.

Seventy-five years back, according to the large map, there were various names in use in Narrow-marsh which brought up memories of the past when Nottingham was noted for its tanners and tanning. Entering the Marsh from Drury-hill there was (1) "Tanners' Hall Court," (2) "Vat Yard," (3) "Pelt Alley," and (4) "Leather Alley."

The first was reached when a short distance up Maltmill-lane by a turn to the left. The Tanners' Company, &c., is frequently mentioned in olden times. Blackner says, as regards 'Tanners' Hall, "that the Corporation gave the Company the use of the building . . . as a general storehouse for their goods; and as a place of general sale, hence its present name."

The next, or "Vat Yard," was about the second place past Maltmill-lane. Probably eight places further on was "Pelt Alley," which appears to be a large open yard, and in about two places more "Leather Alley" is reached.

OLD NOTTINGHAM:

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE. &c.

VIII.

On various occasions from 250 to 350 years since Nottingham, with other parts of the country, suffered severely from the plague, then called "sickness." In 1637, June 20th, the Corporation were taking steps to prevent its getting to Nottingham (see Records), as it was prevalent in West Bridgford, Cotgrave, Bingham, and East Bridgford. Collections were made for the relief of the distressed.

In 1646, September 16th, the Council "Voted and ordered generally, that the goose fair shall bee wholly cryed downe and proclamation be sent to market townes, to forbid the people to come to it, by reason of the sickness (plague) in the country, and to prevent danger to the towne, through God's mercies." This is the earliest mention I have noticed of "Goose" Fair.

On March 30th, 1609, to prevent the spread of the plague, the Council resolved:—"Ytt ys agreed that from this tyme forwardes for 3 weekes there shall be a watch sett for the towne to looke to the passengers that shall come from any visited place (that is visited by pestilence), and to look to ye takinge upp of forayne (non burgess) wandering people; this watch to consist of 4 men, and theyr wages for these 3 weekes to be paid out of the townes stock; and then to take a forther coorse.—The men assigned were Samuel Bell, Chapell Barr; Robert Pight for the Trent Bridge; Edward Garland, Richard Parkyns to be passant (passing) to and fro. Ytt ys agreed that everie Alderman shall choose 2 deputies under him to assist his business (to prevent the plague) in his ward."

On October 3rd, 1604, watchmen were assigned to various roads leading into the town to examine all entering, and, if necessary, to prevent anyone coming in of whom they were doubtful. At different times wooden "cabins" were erected on the (Mapperley) plains, to which some who resided in the town were sent

if attacked. It was in 1604 when the plague was so exceedingly severe at Colston Basset, and which in its desolating effects could rival Eyam in Derbyshire. Out of a population of about 155 to 160 inhabitants 83 actually died in the three months July, August, and September of that year. Though other places within a moderate distance of Nottingham were "visited," unfortunately for the village of Colston Basset, their misfortune appears to have been much more desolating than in any other locality near.

I desire to rectify an error in the first article of this series (No. 32) which I was glad to have pointed out. It is in relation to "Thorneywood," the southern and smaller portion of Sherwood Forest, and its adoption as a title to a road in substitution of old Wod, Wodd, Wodde, Wode, or Wood-lane. There is no room for doubting that (as in numerous other cases with our ancestors) this name was descriptive of the locality several centuries since.

The first reference to it (incidentally) is in the Borough Records, Vol. I., p. 368, May 2nd, 1295, when some land was transferred, and is described as being "towards the Wood." In Vol. II., p. 359, A.D. 1435, on two occasions reference is made to "Nottingham Wode," and in each case the little rivulet called the Beck is mentioned, which proves its location. In the same volume, pp. 369-70, there are five items (1463-4) referring to men who were paid "for heggeyng (hedging) at the Wodde."

There are many references to Tynsill being cut (in the wood) and carted to numerous places to repair the hedges, &c. This was the small branches of the trees, and also brushwood or underwood. In Vol. 2, p. 485, reference is made to the "Coppice," and that none are to take wood in, without licence.

In Vol. V., p. 106, A.D. 1625 (Borough Records) the Mickleton Jury report, or "present, Maister Alderman Nix, for havinge towe load of wood which was not fitting for him, which was the towne's, in the copies" (coppice). On p. 235, Vol. V., it is ordered by the Council, "that as many trees and as much crooked woode, and fire woode in the coppies (coppice) shall be speedily cutt downe, and the wood and

barke thereof sold, as will raise forty pounds or thereabouts"

On page 316, 1671, September 8th, reference is made to St. Nicholas Church, and further that "It is this day ordered by this council that upon the humble petition of the Inhabitants of the said parish, to this Councell, for some tymber towards rebuilding of the said Ohurch, the said Inhabitants shall have Tenn Tymber Trees, to be felled in the Townes Coppies (coppice) of the best trees beinge there. (Exceptinge those Trees standinge aboute Saint Ann Wellhouse); And thes 10 trees to be sett oute by the Oversight of William Jackson, Alderman; John Greaves, Coroner; Robert Malyn; Roberte White; and Francis Coxe; (and) Richarde Hodgkyn, Alderman; or any fowre of them, which said tymber is to be employed for the said use, and not otherwise."

From what has been mentioned, it will be observed as a fact that in olden times "Nottingham Wood" and "The Coppice" were almost synonymous terms as regarded the locality intended to be understood or described; and Wood-lane was the road to and near the wood. As regards its quality and character as a road, I remember it when in a state very inferior to what has now been the case for many years.

In looking back, unless there be something to guide us, we are liable to err in dates; but, as it appears to me, barely sixteen or eighteen years since, I observed that old "Wood Lane" had been renamed "Thorneywood Lane" or "road," and until the last few days, when reminded of it, I was entirely unaware that its title had again been altered, and this time to "The Wells Road." It is true that I had heard of or seen that name at various times, but never in such a way as to cause me to understand that it had superseded "Thorneywood Road." Wood-lane or road was no doubt an appropriate name, explaining its former relationship to Nottingham Wood, and had been in use about 600 years in connection with the old town.

Much of this might be said of St. Ann's Well, had such a term been applied to the thoroughfare; but history knows nothing of "The Well's"

road, though as regards suitability it may be as good as "Thorneywood" road, for practically the whole of Thorneywood was in the county and what relates to it. While such "renamings" can occur in one part of the city, in the fitness of things, historical associations, &c., they ought to take place in others which have been mentioned, and return to Outgang-road and Mill-street.

In the Borough Records, Vol. IV., it is shown that there were two coppices belonging to the town, though not far apart. In various places the "Far Coppey" and the "Nere Coppy," or "Narre Copie," are mentioned some centuries since—in Vol. I., namely, A.D. 1295 and 1335, and frequently on more recent occasions.

In the Chamberlain's accounts for A.D. 1558 (p. 119, Vol. IV., Borough Records), the following noticeable entry will be found:—"Item 2 wrightis 2 deyes' worke fellyng and squaring 3 (oak) trees for to make the gallousse (gallows) 2s. 6d. Item Robert Leane, a deye's worke about the comen pasture, and making holles (holes) for the galoes trees, 8d. Item Richard Welche, cariedge for the gallows, from the Copey (coppice) to the assigned place 12d. Item 4 men helpyng to rere them; 4d."

"The assigned place" was at the top of Mansfield-road, which at that time (1558) and for more than two and a half centuries later was called "Gallows Hill." Numerous accounts may be found respecting the processions from the town of those condemned to be hung.

From the time mentioned, and before, until well into the last or nineteenth century the total of criminals executed was far greater with a comparatively small population than is now the case with immensely increased numbers. Though this may be easily explained, for during that long period there were almost scores of illegal acts for which the penalty was death, but for many of them if committed in the present time the punishment would not exceed a few weeks' or months' imprisonment.

The first direct mention of "the Gallows" to be found in the Borough Records is, I believe in Vol. III., p. 292, A.D. 1496, where reference is made to "gravell that cam from the

gallows to Cow lane." In Vol. I., p. 85, A.D. 1316, Gervase Aubrey, of Wilford, was found guilty of stealing a cow; the sentence recorded is "Therefore let him be hung." This, though inferential, is proof that there must have been gallows belonging to the town, but the penalty for the crime would now be very different. In the same year, Walter, the shepherd of Sawley, was hung at Nottingham for stealing eleven sheep.

Executions took place on the top of Mansfield-road until 1827 or 1828, and the first which occurred at the House of Correction was, I believe, in August, 1831. At that time the old Town Hall was to some extent used as a prison. Two men had been sentenced to be hung, and the day before their execution they were taken from the town gaol to the House of Correction. The new drop was in course of erection, which, in passing, they perceived and intently surveyed it. They were executed the next day, August 24th.

According to the Date Book, an execution took place on 16th April, 1800. Two men were condemned to be hung on March 17th, after being tried at the County Hall. In connection with or relating to the carrying out of the sentence some noticeable circumstances happened which at this date are singular, and give us an idea of the great change which has happened in cases like this and many others during the last century.

Abraham Whitaker, aged 45 years, and John Atkinson, aged 35 years, were condemned to be hung for forgery. "They had been accustomed to traverse the country as hawkers of muslins, principally, it was said, for the purpose of passing spurious Bank of England notes. They had uttered several to Mr. John Greaseley, of Stapleford, for which they were pursued and apprehended at Eastwood, and a roll of similarly forged notes was found upon them.

In the night of Tuesday subsequent to their conviction, they were very near effecting their escape. Having been supplied with a knife by one of their friends, they managed to remove the lead which secured the iron stanchions in the window of their cell, and to deceive the turnkey substituted for it bits of

painted wood. With half a pound of butter they had asked for, they contrived to find material for a lamp to enable them to explore their way to the roofs of the adjoining houses, from whence they contemplated descending to the street; but, making too much noise in forcing a passage through a wall, they were overheard by the gaoler, and heavily chained down in their old quarters.

Through the powerful intercession of his friends, Whitaker, though known to be the principal in the uttering, had his sentence commuted to transportation for life. Atkinson, after a month's respite, was executed. Up to this period the gallows, which was simply two uprights and a transverse beam, about four yards or a little more in height, remained permanently on the hill near the summit of Mansfield-road as one of the standing 'institutions' of the country. Thus the first object that met the eye of the traveller from the north on his approach to the town was the apparatus of death, and it was regarded by many with deep curiosity.

Early on the morning of Atkinson's execution, to the astonishment of the authorities, it was found that in the night-time some one had cut down the gallows and taken it away. Another had therefore to be immediately erected, and to prevent a repetition of the occurrence the apparatus was made so that it could be taken down as soon as the execution was completed.

It was subsequently ascertained that the gallows had been removed by some young men, who viewed their performance as a capital joke. Though it was made of heavy pieces of oak, its great age and exposure to the weather had left indelible marks upon it, and especially near the junction with the ground. The remains of it were dragged into the town and placed on a haystack in Dickinson's-yard, which occupied part of the site at present bounded by Cross-street and Our-lane, and near to Portland-place.

Unlike the generality of processions to the place of execution, this of Atkinson's was comparatively unattended by those noisy demonstrations of popular hatred to the prisoner which

served to embitter the last moments of many. (He was much commiserated.) It was customary on all such occasions for the unsympathising members of the crowd to seat themselves on any lamp-post or wall, or eligible position which might present itself, from whence they would salute the criminal as he passed them in the cart with cries and exclamations, the nature of which was regulated by the idea they might form of the magnitude of his offence.

One position in particular was always eagerly contended for. This was a ponderous beam of wood that extended across Cow-lane (of that date, but now Clumber-street) from the Long-row to Gridleamith-gate (now Pelham-street) at the corner, from the centre of which was suspended the signboard of the White Lion Inn. On this elevated station a compact row of adventurous fellows were usually perched to see the object of their curiosity 'ride backwards up Cow-lane.' On this occasion the man was allowed to pass in silence."

At this date the beam mentioned would be of a very moderate length, for, judging by old maps in 1800 and at the part mentioned, Cow-lane would probably be less rather than over four yards wide, and at that period the lamp-posts would have oil lamps attached to them for lighting the streets.

We are told that at the place of execution he was calm and resigned, heaving no sigh and shedding no tear; but to the last he continued to assert his complete innocence. The crime was committed in the county, but he (as well as others from the shire under similar circumstances) was executed on the town gallows

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IX.

War was declared by the British against the French on February 11th, 1793, which has generally been termed "The French Revolutionary War." Numerous incidents relating to it occurred in Nottingham not only strange, but also regrettable. There were riots on many occasions from different causes, amongst which the dearness of food, but of bread in particular, may be mentioned. Much information is to be derived from the Date Book respecting what took place at that period.

The people appear to have been quite inclined, especially in the early part, to commemorate at least all the successes of the allies, as well as of Great Britain, in the war, and within a month of its declaration they were rejoicing, but the successes afterwards proved to a great extent imaginary. There was much exultation on the capture of Valenciennes, and also Toulon the same year, but they remained in the hands of their captors for a short period only. This was in 1793, and at that time news travelled slowly.

In 1794 the Rev. G. Walker, minister of High-pavement Chapel, informs us that "It had been the custom in Nottingham for several weeks previous to the month of July, on the receipt of any intelligence in favour of the allied Powers, for the mail to enter the town with a blue flag, or ornamented with blue ribbons. From various elevations in and near the town the people were thus enabled to see the coach when a good distance away, and be prepared for the receipt of good news, or, as the case might be, bad news or no news.

All will severely reprobate and condemn the outrageous acts which were perpetrated in France during the first few years of the Revolution, and wish it were possible to blot out their history and remembrance. To this I have little doubt that people of the most

varied shades of opinion would agree. There is, however, another and most important point on which in these latter days both Government and people are agreed, for we have gained wisdom by experience, though at a terrible cost.

If a revolution now takes place, and a monarchy is changed for a republic, provided that country will continue to be friendly and work harmoniously with us and others, we have given up the ridiculous notion that our own or any other nation has, or of right ought to have, any mandate or claim whatever to interfere with them in their choice of a government.

One hundred and ten years since the opinion of the Government and many of the people at home was very different to that, and it resulted in the loss of scores of thousands of lives, immense destruction of property, an untold amount of distress, together with the piling up of an enormous National Debt. (Query: Why not "Royal Debt" the same as "Royal Arsenal," or Army or Navy?)

The war in its effect generally delayed social legislation, and to a certain degree deferred the advancement of the people during much the greater part of half a century. These were some of the changes made or "advantages" gained in the French War, which was mainly for the purpose of imposing an effete and disgraced monarchy upon that country, though, excepting by force of arms, it has never reigned in France since.

Many of our countrymen strongly protested against commencing or continuing the war for such a purpose, and for that comparatively early date spoke out strongly, as opportunity occurred, against the principle of interfering with the internal affairs of other countries; but hounded on by William Pitt, Edmund Burke, and others, the British Parliament voted in favour of war, and it appears to have been declared on February 11th, 1793. Those in advance of the times suffered severely for their opinions, though they are now recognised by all people as being right, just, and wise.

In this year much "ducking" took place. "The Leen and the newly-formed canal were

the waters dignified by the name of 'Jordan,' where the 'baptisms' by immersion took place" of those disagreeing with the war. Those performed (baptisms) by "sprinkling" were chiefly at the Exchange Pump by being pumped upon. This pump will be remembered by many of my older fellow-citizens as standing on the front of the Exchange, in the centre and near to the edge of the causeway. The popular distich was:—

We'll pump upon them till they sing
Upon their knees "God save the King."

I have known and spoken with those who had been ducked, and with one who only escaped such an ordeal by the speed with which he was able to run, but he lost a basket of tools. One of the poor fellows (John Relps, a master stocking-maker) never recovered from the shock caused by being ducked. He was a stout, large-made man, and from endeavouring to escape was in a state of much perspiration when forced into the water.

About sixty years since I knew an old man named Evans, who had been ducked in those times. He passed the last years of his life in the Lambley Hospital, which was then at the top of Derby-road. I was also well acquainted with his son, William Evans, and frequently heard him speak of what had once happened to his father. He, too, ended his days in the Lambley Hospital.

Respecting Mr. Relps, in my younger days on various occasions I heard of his abominable treatment and untimely death from various persons who knew him, and remembered the facts as stated.

"On October 3rd, 1794, the 'Gentlemen' (!) Yeomanry of the Town Troop had a grand field day. Their number was sixty-seven, and in the evening Ichabod Wright, Esq., their captain, gave them a sumptuous entertainment at Thurland Hall. Troops of Volunteer Yeomanry Cavalry, of which the above mentioned was one, were common throughout the country.

"November 3rd.—The Nottinghamshire Regiment of Militia, after an encampment of six months near Danbury, in Essex, went into winter quarters at thirteen villages in the nor-

thern part of that county, of which Baintree and Bocking were the chief."

The activity of the recruiting parties at this period, and subsequently, was particularly great. Besides five or six regiments of the line, there were others for local corps. Every possible inducement to enlist was held forth. The Loyal Nottinghamshire Fencible Foot commanded by Colonel O'Connor, offered a bounty of eight guineas, with a guarantee that recruits should not be drafted nor sent on foreign service.

The Prince of Wales's Loyal Leicester Fencibles, commanded by Colonel Parkyns, offered "the most glorious opportunity since the world began to all spirited fellows": Recruits were to serve at home "only" during the war, and were to receive "a most liberal bounty."

Major Newton's corps of Infantry offered "great encouragement to all gentlemen volunteers, free, able, and willing to serve His Majesty King George the Third, and very large bounties." This Major Newton resided at Bulwell House, and the headquarters of his regiment was the "Blackmoor's Head" (at the corner of High-street and Gridlesmith-gate, now Pelham-street).

Substitutes for Militiamen and recruits for the Yeomanry were also eagerly and continually sought after. "Exertions equally great, though on a less extensive scale, were put forth to obtain men for the Navy. The Navy Act compelled the authorities of every parish in the county to provide a certain number of men, and the overseers were accustomed to offer bounties for volunteers.

In St. Mary's, as an instance, the placard ran thus:—"God save the King, and Success to the Navy! Rouse! Rouse! Rouse! To Arms! To Arms! Conquest leads the way! All bold and daring Robin Hood's men, who are known to be brave and true, have an unexampled opportunity to make their fortunes with prize money; also the honour of enrolling themselves with the bravest seamen in the world, the British tars of Old England!!! A bounty of twelve guineas to each dashing hero to serve in His Majesty's Royal Navy, which

rides triumphant on the seas, and dares the Gallic foe to combat. . . .

"As Robin Hood's men are known to be good marksmen, brave, and true, the admiral may appoint them all to serve in frigates, when they are sure to make their fortunes to a man. Now or Never, as only a few are Wanted—no time is to be lost at this glorious opportunity, or they will lose it for ever.

"As a further encouragement, every gentleman volunteer will receive a handsome Royal undress navy uniform, hat, jacket, trowsers, &c. All able-bodied men who wish to enter this noble service, immediate application may be made to Mr. Sturt, Black Horse, Stoney-street; Mr. Howard, Wheeler-gate; or to Mr. Shackleton, at the Barley Mow, Narrow-marsh; where each loyal hero will be honourably received, kindly entertained, and enter into present pay and full allowance."

In 1799 I find in Willoughby's Nottingham Directory that the "Black Horse" was in the hands of Mrs. Sturt; possibly Mr. Sturt had died in the interval. At that date there is no reference to Mr. Howard or Mr. Shackleton; it is therefore probable that they had ceased keeping public-houses in Nottingham.

During the French war there were constant disturbances by the people from various causes, most of which originated with or were caused by the scarcity and cost of food, which was frequently at famine prices. April 18th, 1795, Saturday: "This evening, in consequence of the assemblage in the Market-place of a large mob, with the avowed intention of sacking the Shambles, the Riot Act was publicly read, and the Yeomanry called out. By their diligent exertions during four hours, seconded by the Dragoons from the Barracks, thirteen of the ringleaders were apprehended, and the tranquillity of the town restored.

"This disturbance led to the introduction of a row of stalls for country butchers, extending along the north side of the Exchange. The Mayor authorised them for the purpose of securing a better supply of meat, and a spirit of competition."

At the latter end of the eighteenth century,

and for some years at the commencement of the nineteenth, the wages of labourers in Nottingham would be little, if any, more than a third of what is at present the case. As an example, take a bricklayer's labourer, who, if an able man, can now obtain twenty-seven shillings per week of fifty-four hours, or rather less time; whereas in 1795, and for a long period after, the week's work would consist of from fifty-nine to sixty-four hours, and for that their wages would probably not exceed nine shillings per week.

There is good authority for this assertion, as many now in the city can easily remember, even in comparatively recent years, when the labourers in some of the agricultural counties of England were not paid much, if any, more than nine shillings per week.

In my remembrance, bricklayers generally in Nottingham were paid twenty-one shillings per week or less. These amounts have, however, for a long time been very much greater; but there is proof that quite within the period of living memory town labourers' wages have been so largely added to, that they not only obtain a shilling per day more than bricklayers did 58 years since, but they also work one hour per day less. It is a cause for rejoicing that circumstances have allowed of such a desirable change, and that the men and their families can now, with cheap food, acquire many additional comforts and conveniences.

Sixty years, or rather more since, I remember talking with an aged man, a native of Derbyshire, who informed me that in 1785, when he had completed his apprenticeship as a joiner, he could not in that part get more than 10s. or 10s. 6d. per week, that being the ordinary amount then paid in the locality. He shortly afterwards left that county, and was able to obtain an increase in Nottingham.

I relate these facts so that those reading them may be better enabled to judge and compare respecting the ability of working men to obtain from their wages a sufficiency of food for themselves and families, dating about eighty-five to one hundred and ten years since, as compared with those of the present time.

In July, 1785, "wheat was selling at 160s. a quarter, and bread could not be obtained by working people without much difficulty. At the present time wheat is almost exactly one-third of that price, and wages, as mentioned, have enormously increased. In 1785 a labourer would have to work about eleven weeks before he could earn as much money as would purchase a quarter of wheat, whilst at the present time and for a number of years he would only have to be engaged from seven to seven and a half-days to earn what would buy a quarter of wheat. Here is an astounding difference in favour of modern times, when the Great Powers of the world are very much more impressed with the desirability and necessity of peace than they were in former times.

On 25th April, 1796, "It having been rumoured that Mr. Gervasse Smart, baker, of this town, had hoarded up a large stock of corn with a view of raising the price, a number of persons, who thought the price of wheat was sufficiently high at 77s. per quarter, assembled about his house and, after abusing him in unmeasured terms, broke his windows and threatened to pull down the premises."

The magistrates endeavoured ineffectually to cause the mob to disperse, and the Yeomanry and a troop of the 12th Light Dragoons were called out. They were ridiculed and pantered by the crowd for an hour or two, and ultimately they were commanded to fire, but most of them held their muskets pointed upwards, and therefore only one person was hurt, and that was a youth, who was struck by a bullet in the heel. Some were arrested, and the others immediately fled.

On August 26th, 1796, from "the disposition to tumultuous excesses," the magistrates warned the people, and further said: "It is therefore their determination to take away the licence from every public-house which may be proved to entertain company in it after eleven o'clock at night."

In this year the Government gave permission to James Murray, Esq., of the 90th Regiment, to raise a corps of one thousand men, to be called the Loyal Nottinghamshire Foresters,

The headquarters was at Mr. James Edenborough's, victualler, Punch Bowl, New Change.

"As a specimen of the extravagant misrepresentations held forth to recruits entering regiments of the line, the local newspaper supplies the following evidently satirical address, 'said' to have been given by an English Officer:—I will lead you into a country where the rivers consist of fine nut-brown ale—where the houses are built of hot roast beef, and the wainscots papered with pancakes. There, my boys, it rains plum-pudding every Sunday morning, the streets are paved with quartern loaves, and nice roasted pigs run about with knives and forks stuck in them, and crying out, 'Who will eat me? Who will eat me?'"

By February, 1797, the aspect of affairs in the country was particularly gloomy; the Bank of England had suspended cash payments, and its effects generally were very disastrous. It caused the stoppage of great numbers of frames from want of cash, and to prevent the closing of the ordinary business in the town the local bankers issued a large number of seven shilling tickets.

On April 10th a public meeting was called together by Mr. John Fellows, of the High-pavement; Mr. Wm. Dawson, Sussex-street; Mr. John Wyer, Castle-gate; Mr. T. Rawson, St. James's-street; Mr. Charles Homer, of the Exchange; Mr. Thos. Simpson, Goose-gate; and Mr. Francis Bestow, Hounds-gate; and, attended by about four thousand persons, was held at the Malt Cross, in the Market-place, to petition the King for the removal of his Ministers as a preliminary step to peace.

Mr. Fellows was called upon to preside, and a resolution embodying the purport of the meeting was moved by Mr. F. Wakefield and Mr. Robert Davison, and unanimously adopted. The petition received five thousand signatures. On April 20th the Corporation agreed to a similar memorial.

OLD NOTTINGHAM

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c

X.

1797. By this time, and no doubt from the dearness of food, with other very undesirable circumstances, and after an experience of four and half years, the enthusiasm for the war had greatly abated. On October 16th news arrived of Admiral Duncan's great victory over the Dutch fleet, and almost the only public demonstration of joy was given by the Scots Greys, then stationed here, who fired three volleys in the Market-place, and at night illuminated the barracks.

In the following year, 1798, October 3rd, much gratification was shown by the people on the receipt of the news of Nelson's great victory over the French fleet at the Battle of the Nile. It happened to arrive during the festivities connected with Goose Fair. A public subscription was afterwards raised in the town to assist the wounded seamen and marines, together with the widows and children of those killed.

1799, September 30th. On this date colours were presented to the Loyal Nottingham Volunteer Infantry and Cavalry, when the chaplain, during his address, said: "I will quote to you the remark of a gentleman who, I believe, is now present, not less eminent for skill in his profession than for the accuracy of his observation and experience. His assertion was this: 'That he had lived seventeen years in the town of Nottingham, and during that period there have been seventeen riots, which on an average is a riot once a year. Eighteen months have elapsed since the corps have been embodied, and there has not appeared the slightest symptom of disturbance.'" This is ample evidence that the so-called "good old times" in most things are not to be compared with those of a more recent date.

In January, 1800, a large public subscription was raised for the relief of the poor, and the establishment of a public soup kitchen. "Bread was an article of great scarcity during part of

this year. In January the quartern loaf sold for 1s. 3d., in February for 1s. 4d., in March for 1s. 5d., in April for 1s. 4d., in May for 1s. 5d., in June 1s. 6½d. (at which time wheat realised from 140s. to 145s. per quarter), and in July 1s. 6d."

April 19th. The high prices of provisions at the market provoked a riot. Early in the afternoon the people of the lower parts of the town congregated to a large extent in the Market-place, and proceeded to acts of violence. First they surrounded the butter stands, and rifled them of their contents; the gardeners and fishmongers were the next victims of their rapacity; and then they attacked the Shambles, and bore away joints of meat in all directions. It was not until the military exerted themselves that the riot was suppressed. Several of the ringleaders were apprehended and sentenced to terms of imprisonment.

August 31st. Although this was Sunday, it was marked as the commencement of a serious riot. (The second this year.) A great increase in the price of provisions, more especially of bread, had roused the vindictive spirit of the poorer classes to an almost ungovernable pitch. They began late in the evening by breaking the windows of a baker in Millstone-lane, and in the morning proceeded, with an increase of numbers and renewed energy, to treat others of the trade in the same unwelcome manner.

Granaries were broken into at the canal wharfs, and it was very distressing to see with what famine-impelled eagerness many a mother bore away corn in her apron to feed her offspring. The Volunteer Infantry were placed upon duty wherever popular fury was displayed, whilst the civil authorities and the Dragoons from the Barracks exerted themselves in vain to induce the rioters to desist from their purpose. Thus matters continued until September 3rd, when one of the most awful storms of thunder and lightning ever witnessed in this town put a final end to the protracted disturbance.

November 6th. A liberal subscription was commenced for the establishment of soup kit-

chens. On November 10th, the Corporation unanimously voted a petition to the King praying him to immediately convene Parliament for the purpose of taking into consideration the alarmingly high price of bread (good wheat was selling at 130s. a quarter, and at the end of the year wheat was 150s. a quarter). Whilst being reminded of these enormous prices, the amount of working people's wages, as previously stated, must not be forgotten.

1801. "This was also a year of famine and distress. The prices of wheat in successive months will sufficiently indicate the fact. In January the purchase money of wheat of the best quality was 142s. per quarter, in February 166s., March 178s. (!), April 172s., May 130s., June 135s., July 165s., August 90s., September 88s., October 60s., November 82s., December 82s." We are told that in June, 1800, when wheat realised 140s. to 145s. the quarter, bread sold for 1s. 6½d. the quarter loaf.

In March and April of this year (1801) it was 32s. to 33s. more than that sum, therefore the quarter loaf would not be sold for less at those dates than 1s. 9d., which was 3d. additional to what a labourer would generally earn in (as compared with the present period) a long day's work, and as a fact he would then be completely engaged for seven days before he could earn as much money as was required to purchase six quarter loaves, whereas at the present date, and for a number of years past, labourers have been paid for one day's work sufficient to pay for eleven quarter loaves; while for seven days' work his wages would now purchase seventy-seven quarter loaves in place of six.

In my younger days I have frequently conversed with men who lived through those times, and their complaint was not alone that bread was so excessively dear, but that much of it was of a quality so inferior as to be scarcely eatable. All of us have no doubt heard the old saying respecting things which are "cheap and nasty," and also that "there is no rule without an exception," and bread in this case is a most noticeable exception.

For many years of late it has been cheap, and

I have no hesitation in stating that, whilst so easily obtainable it has, generally speaking, never been surpassed in quality. Cheap corn, as a rule, not only implies cheap bread, but "good bread." From 88 to 110 years since, when bread was at the famine prices mentioned, it was worse in quality, as a rule, than on other and ordinary occasions.

There cannot be any doubt that much of the corn was then very unsound when sold in the market, and such as would now only be thought of as being eaten by cattle, &c. It requires good flour to make good bread, but respecting some of the corn I have mentioned, it scarcely deserved a better name than "rubbish." It was quite an ordinary matter to find the inside of the loaves of a consistency much resembling the internal part of a half-cooked better pudding, soft and unset.

Loaf for loaf, one of our excellent present-day quartern loaves (making a fair allowance for its extra quality) is at least double the value of many of those made and sold at so great a cost a century since in Nottingham. Going back to about 1840, I have frequently heard this subject brought forward in conversation when the hardships of the people were related which occurred during the French War.

In my recollection there is one class of bread (the commonest), which I often saw in the bakers' shops as a youth sixty years or rather more since, which has I think, been entirely superseded and "driven from the market by our cheap and good wheat. In colour it was dark, but entirely different in shade and character to what is now termed "ground down" bread. I believe that rye flour entered largely into its composition. It might be a fairly healthy sort of food, but, all considered, much inferior to what is now obtainable. It is probable that many of my older readers will still remember this kind of bread being sold in Nottingham.

When in Germany a few years back my curiosity was somewhat excited on seeing amongst the bread, a portion of this sort placed upon the table, when I once more tasted it. I heard from someone in Central and Southern

Germany during the last summer, and this kind was again remarked upon as being, with white bread, provided for meals. It is still, I believe, in Germany the ordinary food of the working people. In that respect we are more than half a century in advance of them.

During the last fifty years I have frequently visited France, and observed that, generally speaking, the "quality" of their bread is similar to what we have in England. There is certainly a difference in their methods of making it as compared with our own.

In 1803, July, the publicly advertised premium for Militia insurance for St. Mary's Parish was 14s., paid at the parochial office. Thus, to prevent pauperism by the removal of heads of families, the overseers were accustomed during the war to provide substitutes for those balloted parties who had previously assured against such a contingency. The cost of a substitute varied from £5 to £20 or £30, and the premium of assurance graduated proportionately.

November, 1804, the best wheat was 104s. per quarter. Respecting "The victory of Trafalgar and death of Nelson" (October 21st, 1805), there was neither an illumination nor any outward public rejoicing in Nottingham to commemorate the event, but liberal subscriptions were made in most of the churches and chapels for the relief of the families of the killed and wounded.

1811, February. "Such was the reduced state of trade and the high price of corn that half-famished workmen belonging to nearly every branch of the local manufacture were constrained to sweep the streets for a paltry support. They were so employed by the overseers of St. Mary's, the Workhouse being too full to receive their families, and no other employment presenting itself."

In August this year recruiting for the Army was specially active; large bounties were given to lads even when only 5ft. high. The Dog and Drake, Chandler's-lane; the Volunteer, Meadow-plats; the British Tar, Newcastle-street; and the Durham Ox, Pelham-street, were the principal places for Army recruiting

purposes in the town. It was during the year 1811 that the Luddites first commenced their excesses, and destroyed a number of stocking-frames, &c. At intervals these wanton and ridiculous proceedings continued for six or eight years.

Respecting Nottingham, we are told, A.D. 1812, that "The year opened gloomily. A protracted and ruinous war, with its usual accompaniments of prostrated commerce, provisions greatly enhanced in price (wheat selling at 108s. per quarter); a depreciated currency and scarcity of employment produced suffering, which the excesses of the Luddites served only to aggravate and increase

"There was a general feeling of dejection in the town; and the nightly recurring outrages, the unintermittent fear of the frame-owners, the presence of numerous bodies of troops, ready at a moment's notice to sally forth in pursuit of the enemy, and the night watching and garrisoning of houses realised more than at any other period in the memory of the inhabitants a conception of the horrors of a state of siege."

The "Nottingham Journal" of January 10th says:—"Scarcely a night passes without some fresh outrage or robbery, and hordes of banditti infest the country to such a degree that neither persons nor property can be considered safe either by day or night." A piquet consisting of seventy-five of the Berkshire Militia, divided into separate parties, and attended by constables, patrolled the streets of the town every night from the hour of five in the evening (in February, 1812) until five the next morning.

To prevent the destruction of frames, &c., the Mayor and Corporation appointed a secret committee, invested with discretionary power to expend any sum not exceeding two thousand pounds, for the purpose of obtaining such information as might be useful in suppressing the disturbance and bringing the rioters to punishment.

This committee offered rewards for secret intelligence, and promised never to divulge the names of informants; and for enabling them to conduct the inquiries with efficiency and secrecy they were absolved from all liability to render

any account of their expenditure.

On the 14th of November, according to request, an addition of one troop was made to the military in the town, and all appeared quieter for a short time; but on the 27th there was a change, "and the Lord-Lieutenant of the county signified his apprehensions that the same disposition was likely to extend to the counties of Leicester and Derby." From the 14th of November to the 19th of December between 800 and 900 cavalry and 1,000 infantry were ordered into Nottingham, a greater force than had ever been necessary in any part of our history to be employed in the quelling of a local disturbance.

A law was sanctioned by Parliament by which those breaking any machines or frames were, on conviction, liable to the punishment of death; and it was in connection with this matter that Lord Byron's maiden speech was addressed to the House of Lords, on the 27th of February, 1812. The Act rendering frame-breaking a capital offence continued in force until the 1st of March, 1814.

On March 1st, 1812, a number of men were in custody charged with the breaking of machines or frames, and there could have been observed the very unusual sight of the military attending divine service with fixed bayonets. An apprehended attack upon the County Gaol to liberate a number of frame-breakers therein confined was the cause of the extraordinary precaution. This was doubtless on Sunday, and at St. Mary's Church, it being near to the County Hall.

On March 25th, 1812, we are told that the price of fine wheat was 142s. per quarter, or exceeding four times what it is at present (1903), or has generally been of late years.

OLD NOTTINGHAM.

ITS STREETS. PEOPLE. &c.

XI.

On May 11th, 1812, Mr. Perceval, the Prime Minister, was assassinated in the lobby of the House of Commons by Bellingham. "The Journal" informs us that—"As soon as the truth of the report respecting the murder of Mr. Perceval had been ascertained a few deluded men and ignorant boys, who had been taught that the deceased statesman was the prime cause of commercial distress and suffering amongst the people, assembled in Fisher-gate, and proceeded with a band of music through all the principal streets. They were quickly joined by a numerous rabble, who in the most indecent and reprehensible manner testified their joy at the horrid catastrophe by repeated shouts, the firing of guns, and every species of exultation. It was not until the military were called out and the Riot Act was read that the disgraceful scene was put an end to." August 21st, 1812.—The market price for good wheat was 155s. per quarter.

September 11th.—A riot engendered by the prevailing famine commenced in the morning of this day. The immediate cause arose from a baker asking twopence a stone more for flour than he had received the preceding week, notwithstanding that wheat had descended in price on the intervening Saturday. The disturbance began by several women in Turncalf-alley (now Sussex-street) sticking a halfpenny loaf on the top of a long rod after having streaked it with red ochre, and tied around it a shred of black crape, emblematical it was said of "bleeding famine, decked in sack-cloth." By the exhibition of this and the aid of three hand-bells, two carried by women and one by a boy, a considerable crowd of people, chiefly women and children, soon congregated together. They were joined for a short time by a number of the West Kent Militia in their undress, who had been irritated in consequence

of their "tommies" (or loaves) being short of weight. The promiscuous assemblage, wrought up to a high pitch of fury, first proceeded to the house of the offending baker, and completely demolished his windows, and exacted a promise that he would at once reduce the price of flour sixpence per stone. Mobs directly set to work in every part of the town. Almost every baker experienced similar ill-treatment unless he at once complied with the demands of the mob.

In September the harvest proved favourable, and wheat fell greatly in price. At Newark as much as 63s. a quarter in a fortnight. August 26, 1813.—The price and assize of bread set by the Mayor for the ensuing week directed that the peck loaf (wheaten) was to weigh 17lbs. 6oz., and to be sold for 5s. 3d. July, 1815.—A public subscription amounting to £1,200 was raised in the town and neighbourhood for the relief of the families of the killed and wounded (of the British) who fought at Waterloo on the 18th June. There had been no public celebration in Nottingham of this, the most memorable of British victories, excepting the simple circumstance of the Cambridge Regiment of Militia, which then happened to be quartered in the town, discharging volleys from their muskets in the Market-place.

"Ned Ludd" had of late not been very active, but on June 9th, 1816—"About 1.0 a.m. a party of men, disguised and armed with various sorts of weapons, broke into the house of Mr. William Wright, of New Radford, and seven of them rushed upstairs into the workshops. Twelve valuable point-net frames, the object of their visit, were then utterly demolished. Mr. Wright was away from home, but one of the inmates, supposing she knew two of the men, gave such information as led to their apprehension. The trial of these men, Thomas Glover and John Chettle, before Mr. Justice Graham, on Saturday, the 3rd of the following August, was one of the most memorable in our local annals. It commenced in the afternoon, and did not terminate until about two o'clock on Sunday morning. The men were charged

with feloniously entering Mr. Wright's dwelling-house and breaking therein twelve frames. Mr. Denman was the only counsel for the accused, and added to his rapidly-rising reputation by the way in which he conducted and established the "alibi" set up, unquestionably one of the most perfect ever submitted to a Court of Justice. Fortunately for the preservation of the public peace the result of the trial was the acquittal of both prisoners. Had it been otherwise the most fearful consequences would doubtless have ensued, as the body of the hall was for hours in possession of a number of determined men, who would not suffer a light to appear in Court, excepting on the bench and the counsel table. It is also notorious that a number of confederates with loaded pistols were in the outer hall, and that the constables and javelinmen were quite unable to maintain order. The verdict of "Not guilty" was received with a tremendous and continued shout of exultation, notwithstanding the attempts of the Judge and officers of the Court to suppress it. It is understood that had the verdict been adverse both Judge and jury would have been assassinated, and so serious was the alarm afterwards produced that it was contemplated to make Newark the Assize town instead of Nottingham. Chettle died at New Radford in July, 1838, aged 64 years; and Glover at his house on Mansfield-road in January, 1839, aged, 54 years.

1816. December 10.—Owing to the dearth of food, good wheat realising 140s. per quarter, there was much suffering and a great deficiency of employment. A public meeting was held in the Town Hall and a subscription resolved upon. The amount realised was £4,184. A London association gave "twenty tons of red herrings." Lord Middleton gave three hundred tons of coal, and the parish of St. Nicholas expended £500 in a separate soup establishment. The poor rates were also excessively heavy. 1817.—A public meeting was held on February 24 in opposition to the precipitancy with which Ministers were passing the Habeas Corpus Suspension Bill through Parliament. At the Assizes held in Nottingham in March, 1818, the

following were sentenced to be hung, namely— a woman for uttering a counterfeit shilling; a man for stealing a horse; a youth aged 16 for stealing a scarf; two youths 18 and 19 years old for breaking into a house; two men for stealing a sheep; a man for breaking into a house; another man for burglary; two young men aged 21 and 22 years for burglary at Burton Joyce. The two last were hung, but the first nine were reprieved and punished in another form. At that date and for centuries before, but especially for about 15 to 20 years afterwards, the Government were morally almost as culpable as the culprits for allowing such vindictive laws to disgrace the Statute Book.

August, 1819.—Bridlesmith-gate underwent a great improvement. The footpaths were formed of flagstones (which replaced boulders), the horseroad was newly paved, and by the voluntary consent of the tradesmen and owners of property the whole of the numerous projecting signs, doorsteps &c., were removed. These alterations with the newly-introduced gaslights gave the street quite a new appearance. It being the most fashionable and best business street in the town an effort was made to change its name to Bond-street (the name of what was then one of the most fashionable streets in London), but the attempt was unsuccessful.

This proposed alteration of title was just at the period (mentioned in a previous article) when it was endeavoured to change the name of Narrow-marsh to Red Lion-street, which by good fortune also failed, though there is still little, if any, evidence of the speculation being official in either case. March, 1821.—At the Town and County Assizes no less than thirty-two persons were sentenced to be hung. The whole of them were subsequently reprieved. Many of the laws at this time were infamously unjust, and cruel in the extreme, which to a great extent appears to have been acknowledged by the Government, for they certainly seem to have been ashamed of them from their action in reprieving the whole of the condemned. The Records, 1695-6 gives us some curious and inte-

resting particulars respecting the town. In 1695 a Bill was before Parliament for the improvement of the navigation of the River Derwent; a committee of the Corporation being appointed to draw up reasons against it, and subscriptions were raised to defray the expenses of the opposition. By way of showing their earnestness in the matter the Corporation agreed to add as much out of their funds as should be raised by the town. It was the Derby people especially who desired this change, which would enable them to get goods from Hull and Gainsborough by vessels coming up the Trent, and to a great degree render it unnecessary to come to Nottingham and purchase them. We are told that the subscriptions were about one hundred and twenty pounds, though its equivalent in money at the present time would probably be five hundred pounds. But there is also another very important point to remember, which is that Nottingham in 1695 was probably not much more than one-twenty-fifth its present size. In previous articles some account has been given respecting the arbitrary proceedings of the old Corporation towards various persons who would have introduced work, and in some instances new trades, into the town, but were prevented because they were not burgesses. It may be hoped that they ultimately saw the error of their way, for in the Records, Vol. V., p. 375, 1691, we are told that at a meeting of the Council it was "ordered that Maister Alderman Hawkins treat with the Governor of the King and Queen's Corporation for the linen manufacture at Salisbury Exchange for agreeing with him upon terms for setting up the said manufacture in this town according to the proposalls received in print."

Amongst the presentments or charges at the Sessions, July 20th, 1620, is the following:—"I, Thomas Garratt, of Nottingham, joyner, doe here in open Sessions present Dorothy Newton, of the same, widowe, for a common scold, sower off striffe, and debate amongst neighbours, a seducer of others, and a sclanderous person, and that she is neither of good name, fame, or conversacion; to all which articles I wilbee deposed before your Wor-

ships: therefore I humbly crave the good behaviour against her. (Ordered to be) 'Ducked.'

On the 21st of July, 1515, a presentment was made at the Sessions of an attempt to murder the Mayor, and "The jurors say upon their oath that whereas of late, to wit, on the eighth day of June, in the eighth year of the reign of King Henry the Eighth, certain venerable men, to wit, the Abbot of Dale, the Prior of Lenton, and Thomas Mellers, Mayor of the town of Nottingham, as well as divers other honest men, were assembled in friendly manner, and joyfully conversing and drinking wine in the house of one John Williamson, one of the aldermen of the town aforesaid, in the county of Nottingham; the aforesaid Abbot and Prior, with others sitting at the innerside of the table there, and the aforesaid Mayor and other trustworthy men, sitting at the outerside of the said table; one Henry Steeper of Nottingham in the county of Nottingham, mercer, with force and arms, to wit, with a dagger; the day, place, and year aforesaid, suddenly entering the aforesaid house with a dagger of his, secretly drawn, and hidden in his sleeve, intending to kill and murder the said Mayor, stood for a little while at the back of the said Mayor, and suddenly struck him with the aforesaid dagger over the left shoulder of the said Mayor, in his left arm, and in his left side; and gave him two wounds; and so soon as the said Henry had so done; he suddenly went out of the house aforesaid; running with speed to the Church of Saint Peter; and then sought the privilege of the Church (sanctuary) asserting that he had there openly slain the Mayor; to the pernicious example of evildoers, unless condign punishment follows." The bill is endorsed "We of the West Parte of the town fyn this bylle a gud and trewe bylle and present." This is very interesting as giving us an idea of the life and doings of some of the chief inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood in pre-Reformation times.

It will be noticed that Henry Steeper is said to have been a mercer; this would also seem to imply that he was at least in mode-

ately comfortable circumstances. In the Records, Vol. III., p. 123, A.D. 1512-13, he is mentioned with James Reeve as being a surety for John Bowl, a pewterer who had been enrolled as a burgess. On pages 163-179, A.D. 1523-24, we find his name on a subsidy roll when all in the town at the time, and liable to pay, appear to have their names recorded, and it is rather singular that he is entered as living in the same thoroughfare as the Mayor, Thomas Mellers, namely, Low-pavement. It seems probable that the Mayor had a favourable recovery from his wounds, but I have not seen any account of Steeper being punished for his misdeed, though it may have occurred.

The lowest amount at which anyone was assessed to the subsidy was, I believe, fourpence, and many menservants appear to have paid that sum, for which the modern equivalent would, I consider, be from four to five shillings. Thomas Mellers paid £3, or representing about £35 or £40 of our present money. Henry Steeper was assessed at 1s. 6d., equivalent to about 18s. or 21s. at the present time. Robert Mellers (probably a relation) paid 50s. He was living in Gretsmyth-gate (now Pelham-street). In the presentments to the Sessions, Vol. III., p. 345, A.D. 1516, is the following:—"We present Herry Steper for takyng a livery cote of the Priour of Lenton." This was contrary to law as regarded a burgess of Nottingham, and an offence against the Statutes of Liveries and Maintenance. Another item says:—"We present the Priour of Lenton for meynteneng of Herry Steper in weyryng of his livery, contrary to the Statute." This bill was found true by the jury from the Western side.

OLD NOTTINGHAM

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE &c.

XII.

In this article I propose to bring under consideration an open space or piece of ground, with its surroundings, outlets, &c., on the southern side of the city, also the various changes in its name, &c., which in olden times was associated with one of the three main roads of the town. I am referring to what is now entitled "Plumtre-square." This is a case in which our ancestors almost appear to have specially endeavoured to vary the mode of spelling which we should term "Bridge End." In Vol. I., I first find it mentioned in 1362, April 9th, when an enrolment of land occurred, which is nearly five hundred and fifty years since.

On various occasions in the course of centuries that open space is entitled Brighend, Brigend, Bregeend, Bryg Ind, Brygende, Brydgende, Bridgend, and also spelled in other ways. Applying the name in our modern form, I may say that in the Borough Records this part of the town is probably in all cases termed "Bridge End," or its old equivalent, and Deering generally so terms it though upon his map "Bridge-foot" is entered as its title.

That style is also used in another case or two which I have seen, but one of them deserves special mention, for it is in that rare book, "Compiled and arranged by E. Willoughby. Printed for the Author, C. Sutton, and sold at his shop . . . and by Mr. Willoughby, Castle-gate, Nottingham, 1799." On one occasion at least, even at that date, he calls the place "Bridge-foot," though on many other occasions in the Directory he terms it Bridge-end.

This I believe to be the first known Directory of Nottingham, and as occupying a somewhat midway position between the present time and the seventeenth century; it gives us much interesting information, and excellent ideas of the past as regards place names, &c. (of which many old ones then remained), together with

the part of the town where a number of those persons lived of whom some of us had frequently read. Amongst such as are mentioned, I can remember in my young days seeing a few names still left in the town of those who in 1799 had been in business for different periods up to twenty years.

On two occasions—once in Vol. II. of the Records, and once in Deering when Plumptre Hospital is mentioned—it is stated to be “at the End of the Bridges of Nottingham.” In my seventh article, pp. 34-35, I give a brief account of the Leen Bridge, but which was also known as “The Town Bridge” and “The Bridge of Nottingham,” although as a fact and by law the county had to keep full seven-eighths of it in repair.

It is probable that many of my readers, until it is explained, will scarcely realise the great size and importance of this bridge in olden times, which by name is associated with so small a river as the Leen. Certainly as a stream, though of interior size, it was the largest that ordinarily ran under the bridge, but as a fact the bridge was in reality more necessary, with its numerous arches, for the downflow of the flood waters in rainy seasons, and to allow of persons coming into and going out of the town uninterruptedly than it was for the purpose of spanning the Leen.

I propose by way of explanation to give some extracts from the Records, Vol. II., pp. 223-241, January 8th, 1457-8, being an “Exemplification of an Inquiry regarding the Repairing of the Leen Bridge.” This was in the thirty-third year of Henry VI., and he appointed nine justices to inquire into and report respecting the dilapidation of the Leen Bridge.

His letters patent commence as follows:—
 “Henry by the Grace of God, &c., &c., to
 Ralph Cromwell, Knight, William Babington,
 Knight, Richard Bingham, John Portington,
 Thomas Chaworth, Knight, William Babington,
 Esquire (query, the Recorder), John Plumptre,
 Mayor (1454-1455) of the town of Nottingham;
 Richard Samon (Mayor, 1451-1452), Thomas
 Babington, and Richard Illingworth greeting.
 Know ye, that as we are fully informed the

great bridge over the water of Leen in the County of Nottingham, between our town of Nottingham, and the bridges called 'Heyegh-beythbrugge' (now the Trent Bridge), in the County aforesaid—whereby frequent and common passage was daily had for men on horseback, and on foot, and for beasts, carts, carriages, as well as for all other things necessary to be carried, both to the town, and out of the same—is so destroyed and broken, by the strong and unwonted rising of flood waters, now lately falling, that such passage is wholly impeded, and delayed, whereby grievous disadvantage, and irreparable damage to our people is caused, and had; and that the aforesaid bridge ought always to be repaired, mended, and sustained, when any necessity or danger threaten; by the inhabitants of the Wapentakes (or Hundreds) of the County aforesaid, and so from time to time, whereof memory of the contrary does not exist, has been wont to be repaired, mended, and sustained: " &c., &c.

Any of the above-named persons, from nine in number down to two, might meet to make inquiry upon oath (provided that William Babington, Knight, or Richard Bingham, or John Portington be one), "of upright and lawful men, as well of the town, as of the county aforesaid, by whom the truth of the Matter may be the better known, by whom the bridge aforesaid ought to be repaired, mended, and sustained, and to compel, and cause to be compelled, all those and singular, that you may find are bound to such reparation, . . . to repair and mend that bridge, with such speed as can conveniently be made, and to compel, and cause them to be compelled by distrains if need be; and by other due and proper ways and means of old time to use; . . . according to the law and custom of our realm of England."

We are then further told:—"It is found by an inquest before the said Richard Bingham, John Plumptre, &c., &c., now here taken as we'l by the oath (of many persons from the different towns and villages) upright and lawful men, of the Wapentakes of Bassetlaw, Thurgarton and Lythe, Newark, Bingham, Broxtow

and Rushcliff in the County of Nottingham (also men from and at Nottingham), that the men of . . . Nottingham ought to repair. and have time out of mind repaired . . . the Northern head of the great bridge aforesaid and the two arches of the same nearest to the Northern head, which two arches and the Northern head contain in length $46\frac{1}{2}$ feet, and also to repair and sustain half of the pier at the Southern end, and that the head and two arches aforesaid are defective, in default of the men of the town aforesaid, &c."

The men of Broxtowe, as had of old been the case, were ordered to repair and sustain the next three arches, which contained in length $81\frac{1}{2}$ feet, and half the northern and southern piers. The men of the Wapentake of Thurgarton and Lythe were, as of old, to repair and sustain the next five arches, which contained in length $135\frac{1}{2}$ feet, and to repair and sustain half of the piers at the northern and southern end of the five arches. The men of the Wapentake of Bassetlaw were, as of old, ordered to repair and sustain the next five arches of the great bridge, which contained in length so much space as the six arches were wont of old time to contain—to wit, $169\frac{1}{2}$ feet. The men of Bassetlaw also had to repair half of the piers at the northern and southern end of their quota.

The men of the Wapentake of Newark were, as of old, ordered to repair and sustain the next three arches of the great bridge, which three arches contain in length 69 feet, and also to repair and sustain half of the northern and half of the southern piers (carrying the arches). The men of the Wapentake of Bingham were, as of old, ordered to repair and sustain a part and parcel of the great bridge aforesaid, adjoining on the southern side the three arches that the men of the Wapentake of Newark ought to repair, as aforesaid, which part or parcel contained in length 105 feet, and also to repair and sustain half of the northern pier and half of the southern pier adjoining the ends of their quota.

It appears that there were no arches in the portion of the Wapentake of Bingham. The men of the Wapentake of Rushcliffe, as of old, were ordered to repair and sustain two other arches

and the southern head of the aforesaid great bridge, which two arches and the southern head contain in length 57 feet. They were also called upon to repair, in conjunction with the men of Bingham Wapentake, half of the pier at the northern end of their quota.

In all cases the various portions of the great bridge appear at the date mentioned (1458) to have been in a bad state of repair, and orders were given for the work to be carried out and completed by a date mentioned—namely, Tuesday in Whitsun Week. The town and each of the six Wapentakes seem to have been fined 6s. 8d. for having allowed the bridge to become so delapidated.

The portion of the great bridge at its northern end for which Nottingham was responsible appears to have been "well and sufficiently" repaired within the time ordered or allowed, but as regards the various Wapentakes, it appears as though threats of unpleasant proceedings had to be made before the whole of the work was fully completed.

The total of the measurements "given" respecting the length of this great bridge amount to 664 feet, but this does not include the six piers, for each of which two parties were responsible for repairs, &c. It is probable that these would each be from eight to ten feet thick, but allowing 50 feet to represent the six, the full length of the old and noted Leen Bridge will be found to have been 714 feet, and that in 1458 it had twenty arches, and at some earlier date possibly an addition of another or two (see Bingham) to the one acknowledged respecting the Wapentake of Bassettlaw, in which portion at one time were six arches.

From these explanations the magnitude of this old bridge may be comprehended, and that the designation "Great" was not out of character considering its size; nor can there be any surprise that our forefathers should entitle the open space into which the bridge opened out at its northern extremity "Bridge-end" or "Bridge-foot." For three centuries or more after the date of the commission of inquiry it is probable that there was no outlet from the bridge, either east or west, nor any streets or houses near it

except at its extreme northern part, and proportionately but few even there compared with modern times.

I now propose to make some remarks respecting the names given at different times to old "Bridge-end," or, as now called, "Plumtree-square." The changes or those attempted appear to have all occurred during the last hundred years. In 1799, according to Willoughby's Directory—except possibly in a solitary instance, when it was termed "Bridge-foot"—after searching, I cannot find any name applied to it except "Bridge-end," and it is very probable that it had been the title for about 500 years, when it was disused.

Though this was the case in 1799, there is evidence that seven years afterwards (in 1806) it was well known as "Red Lion-square," which appears to have probably been the accepted title for about seventeen years after with most of the residents of that part. I have not seen or heard of anything from which I could obtain some idea why the alteration was desired by anyone, but, judging from inference, there appears much probability that the attempted change was not made by the Corporation.

There were elections for members of Parliament in the years 1806, 1812, 1818, and 1820, and on each of the four occasions all those recording their votes in answer to the question in the poll-booths appear to have mentioned "Red Lion-square" as being the place where they resided. Those voting for that part varied generally from six to eight in number, and sometimes those occupying the shops at the bottom corners of Hollow-stone mentioned their residences as being in Hollow-stone, and at other times as in the Square.

In 1825 there was a severe and exciting contest for several days during the election of two members of the Senior Council of the town, when persons were brought from distant parts of the country to vote. It appears from this circumstance and others that the contest was a town affair, and not merely for a ward; it occurred in the time of the unreformed municipalities. Persons are entered when voting as residing at Southwark, Warwick, Leicester,

Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Loughborough (14 in a row), Queniborough, Newark, Mansfield, &c. By this time a great change had taken place respecting the name of "Red Lion-square," for in the poll-booth only one person appears to have mentioned that title when asked about his residence, but seven said that they lived in "Plumptre-square."

In the following year (1826) there was another Parliamentary contest, and again there was only one person when voting who said that he lived in "Red Lion-square," though another revived an old name used occasionally by Deering, and once by Willoughby in his Directory as before mentioned, and gave "Bridge-foot" as the place where he lived; the remainder said they resided in Plumptre-square.

In the large official map of the town by the borough surveyor issued in 1829, it is called Plumptre-square. In White's Directory of the town (1832), and also in Dearden's (1834), it is entitled Plumptre-square; and it has just been shown that there was good cause for so naming it, as it was accepted and used almost exclusively by those resident in the square when voting. This approximately is nearly eighty years since. At the Parliamentary election, 1852, the name used by voters appears to be "Plumptre-square" exclusively, for when looking through the Poll Book of that date I did not observe a single instance in which "Red Lion-square" was mentioned. On examining "The Register of persons entitled to vote at any election of a Member or Members to serve in Parliament, which shall take place in and for the Borough of Nottingham, between the 30th day of November, 1843, and the 1st day of December, 1844," I failed to notice any entry or mention whatever of a voter as residing in Red Lion-square.

Stevenson, Bailey, and Smith, in their map of the town, dated 1877, also call it "Plumptre-square." Yet, strange to say, the editor of the Borough Records, in Vol. IV., p. 434, dated 1889, or twelve years later, when mentioning "Bridge-end," gives "Red Lion-square" as its modern equivalent, "Plumptre-square" being entirely ignored.

In Vol. II., p. 435 (published 1883), we are told that Bridge-end (Finis Pontis) is "The end of the Leen Bridge 'in Fisher-gate,' now known as 'Red Lion-square.'" In Vol. I., p. 429, in reference to Bridge-end, we are told that it is "The end of the 'Leen Bridge' in 'Narrow-marsh,' now covered by St. Patrick's (R.C.) Church." The northern termination of the old "Nottingham Bridge," or "Leen Bridge," ran into the open space called Bridge-end, but not into Narrow-marsh or Fisher-gate, for they each finished also (one at the north-east and the other at the south-west) in the open space called Bridge-end in olden times, but which, as I have shown, for nearly eighty years has been officially and generally known by the name of "Plumtre-square."

In Willoughby's Directory, p. 63, we are informed that "The Hospitals are mentioned in this Directory according to the seniority of their foundations." As those in the square were the first instituted in Nottingham, he commences by saying "Plumtre's Hospital. Bridge-foot" (called "Bridge-end" in the Directory in nearly every other instance).

I am reluctantly compelled to differ with various conclusions of the two editors of the Borough Records, and consider that I have proved some assertions respecting "Red Lion-square," otherwise Plumtre-square, to be quite incorrect, though in such cases I am persuaded that my age, which allows me to distinctly remember many things occurring full two-thirds of a century since (which to them are mere matters of history), gives me a decided advantage, for, comparatively speaking, they are yet young men.

I also, as before mentioned, possess much excellent "material" of various kinds which is most useful to the subject under consideration. In what I may say I wish to ignore any appearance of censoriousness, though much hoping I may be able to assist in the furtherance of historic accuracy. In the next article (No. 44) I expect to continue my remarks in relation to "Plumtre-square," together with the various thoroughfares, &c., abutting upon or near to it. The Borough Records being an official work, it

is the duty of all, when possible, to make them complete and correct.

OLD NOTTINGHAM.

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XIII.

I propose to commence this article by taking into consideration more especially, various matters relating to the northern part of the chief southern outlet to the old town; or as it was practically, even in the remembrance of many of my fellow-citizens, the only outlet applicable for all purposes in that direction. I am referring to what I believe is now termed London-road. I have the recollection of more than one name being applied to it.

From Plumptre-square to the southern end of the Trent Bridge, as it has been entitled in modern times, the distance is probably about a mile. Except incidentally, I wish to confine my remarks to the part near or streets running into Bridge End, or Bridge Foot, or, as now and for nearly eighty years generally known and officially termed, Plumptre-square.

Respecting the old Leen Bridge and its length, I believe it to have been 714 feet. In my seventh article, p. 34, when referring to it, I say that it must have been full 650 feet long, but renewed opportunities of considering the matter have convinced me that it was nearly 70 feet longer, and that it would approximately reach from "Bridge End," or Plumptre-square, to Island-street.

On the same page I refer to the narrowness of the Old Trent Bridge, which many of us still remember, and by what may be gathered from various accounts of the "Great Leen Bridge," otherwise "The Bridge of Nottingham," I am compelled to believe that it was quite as constricted as the one crossing the Trent once was, though it must not be forgotten that but little, if any, more than one hundred years since it is probable that there was not one thoroughfare in Nottingham which had a causeway in it. I have often regretted that such great conveniences were not thought of a few centuries earlier, as it would have compelled our ancestors

in many cases when forming streets to have made them double the width that was then arranged.

I am glad to possess some very large and excellent old engravings representing the south and east of Nottingham, in which fine views are given of the Great Leen Bridge, two of them exhibiting its eastern side, and the other, of extra size, chiefly southwards, but showing fifteen arches on the southern part of the bridge. In many respects the Great Old Leen Bridge appears to have been a counterpart of the Old Trent Bridge. The latter I believe to have been raised somewhat higher above the water or flood, but, judging by appearance, I consider that the Leen Bridge was rather narrower than wider, if there was any difference between the two.

In the old engraving (dated 1743) a lumbering old kind of chaise with a coachman driving and footman standing up behind is shown, together with three pairs of horses, and there does not appear to be much more room in width on the bridge, than what is desirable for the large, ancient, and grotesque conveyance. At that time a number of good-sized trees are exhibited as growing in the meadows, on each side of the Leen Bridge, but on one of the fine old engravings mentioned (very rare), and dating back to about 1685-90, it is shown that those entering into the town from the south more than two hundred years since, after crossing over the Trent and until reaching the first end of the Great Leen Bridge, came through an avenue of trees; for a row may be seen on each side of the road and also on one bank of the River Leen as it ran on each side of the bridge, and in two other instances in the East Croft, where there may perhaps have been a little running stream.

There is another matter to which I must refer in connection with the Great Leen Bridge, and when all the engravings mentioned differ with what we are told in the Borough Records. In the previous article where reference is made to this bridge, after reciting the parts or shares to be sustained and kept in repair by Nottingham, and the Six Wapentakes or Hundreds forming the county, it is mentioned that there does not

appear (as none are recorded) to have been any arches in the portion allotted to Bingham (106 feet).

Ruscliff, or Rushcliff, had the share of two arches next, but southwards, to Bingham, and it completed the bridge to the length announced; but the share of Bingham was amply long enough for four if not five arches, but it is made to appear that it had none in its portion to repair, and as there were two arches enumerated as being more southwards than the share of Bingham, which in this respect was "blank," and as the old and excellent engravings show "no blank," though fifteen arches are exhibited at the south end of the bridge in one case and fourteen in another, it may have happened that additional arches had some time since 1458 been constructed in the part allotted to Bingham.

The total of the arches mentioned is twenty, though as regards the Leen it is very probable that two or three would have been ample for its water to run through at any time, but the remainder of the arches were doubtless intended to be available for use in flood times when the Trent overflowed its banks.

In 1764-65 the old Leen Bridge was taken down, the county magistrates having met and accepted a tender for its demolition and re-erection, when it was expected to have three additional arches and also to be of greater width, which was much needed. A Mr. Thompson, of Lichfield, is understood to have been the contractor. Whilst this important work was in hand advantage was taken of it to straighten the northern end of the bridge by bringing it more eastwardly and nearer the centre of the open space, once called "Bridge Foot" or "Bridge End" (now styled Plumtre-square), and it was then almost opposite to the bottom end of Hollow-stone.

The end of the bridge at one time appears to have been near to the east end of Narrow-marsh (one running southward and the other westward). Undoubtedly the present arrangement is a great improvement upon the old one, for in getting across the square an opportunity is given to gradually increase the height of the roadway, and so enable them to lessen the

gradient of Hollow-stone.

Judging by old maps, &c., relating to the town, I am inclined to think it probable that at some not very distant date the lower part of Hollow-stone on its eastern side may have been taken rather nearer to Fisher-gate than was once the case. Both Speede, in 1610, and Deering, about 1748, on their maps show the western side at the north end of the Leen Bridge as being almost exactly level with, and close to, the eastern end of Narrow-marsh, but thoroughly in the place we now term "Plumptre-square." Another old map, dated 1670, locates the northern end of the bridge rather further eastward than the end of Narrow-marsh.

In 1795, February, there occurred the heaviest flood in and near Nottingham of which we have any record. It was caused by a rapid thaw after much snow and a long frost. In some parts of Narrow-marsh the water was full three feet deep, and said to have been 34 inches higher than any flood previously known. It exceeded our highest in recent times—1875—by ten inches, and the next highest in 1852 by fourteen inches. I have heard those who remembered it and the damage done in the town term it "The little Noah." Even in the meadow plots houses were flooded in some parts, though, I think, this was scarcely possible to arise from the Trent overflowing.

The ten-arch bridge on the London-road of those days, and between the Trent and Leen Bridges, was much damaged and rendered unserviceable by the great flood, and in 1796 Mr. John Bradshaw, of Old Sneinton, was the contractor to reconstruct the work on an improved plan. He was the grandfather of our well-known and respected citizen, Mr. William Bradshaw, of The Park.

Whilst present with his workmen engaged in pulling down one of the arches, Mr. J. Bradshaw, with various other persons employed, were standing on the two next arches, and when the first fell the two others immediately followed, precipitating Mr. Bradshaw and his men with great force into the water. By good fortune Mr. Bradshaw and some others escaped with bruises, &c., but, most unhappily, three men

lost their lives. Two bodies were in a short time recovered, but the third was not found until the next day.

An Act of Parliament had been obtained, dated 19th May, 1796, entitled "An Act for raising, maintaining, and keeping in repair the road from the north end of the Old Trent Bridge to the west end of St. Mary's Churchyard (Why to High-pavement?) by the way of Hollow-stone, in the town of Nottingham; and for erecting and maintaining such, and so many flood bridges (? arches) upon the said road as may be necessary to carry off the flood water, and for widening and improving the entrance to the town."

Blackner complains strongly of this Act, and says that there is a clause in it which compels the Corporation to pay £100 per year out of an estate which was given them for quite a different purpose, towards keeping the flood road in repair.

In my recollection there were, I believe, in 1840, and no doubt a little later, only two houses between the north end of the Trent Bridge, or close to it, and where the canal passes under the road. They were each on the western side, one being the Pinders house, and the other for the use of the Toll-bar Keeper, which was not far from the end of Trent-lane or the bridge over the canal, but on the opposite side. From this time the thoroughfare became more or less known as "The Flood Road," and was frequently so-called.

At the latter end of the eighteenth century, or in the early part of last century, both sides of the road from where the canal passes under it until Bridge End (now entitled Plumptre-square) was reached, buildings of various kinds to a large extent occupied the frontage; and this portion was called "Bridge-street." It was not known as such in Willoughby's Directory of 1799, but at an election in 1806 it is mentioned as a place of residence in the poll-book, therefore it must be about one hundred years since it was first so named.

I find it so designated in the large old official map (1827-1829), and the remainder of the road to the Trent Bridge is termed "London-road."

Before concluding with this thoroughfare I desire by way of preventing any misunderstanding to refer to the tenth paragraph of Article 38, which mainly relates to Narrow-marsh and matters connected therewith, and where it is said that "nearly the whole of the ground between Sussex-street, or Turncalf-alley, and Bridge-street has been occupied by the tanners, &c."

In this case, as in others mentioned, the ridiculous and blameworthy system was again carried out of giving another street, within a short distance of Turncalf-alley, what I think I may say is practically the same name, and that is "New Bridge-street." Such an act is almost sure to cause confusion, for the original Bridge-street, or as afterwards, I believe, called London-road, was the one I referred to; but I do not doubt, in consequence of that title having been superseded for probably forty years or more, and with the great increase of population, there are proportionately but few left who will have any knowledge of it, and the larger number will imagine "New Bridge-street," which is westward, to be the one under notice, whereas it is the Bridge-street which was once considerably further eastward.

There are most undoubtedly appropriate names in abundance to choose from, when necessary, for all or any of our thoroughfares, and no need whatever to have two which are even nearly alike. It certainly appears that such a proceeding deserves to be considered as wilfully and knowingly ordering or allowing what is absolutely certain in time to perplex and muddle.

I now desire to refer to a subject entirely different. There is one most important establishment in the town which must not be overlooked, for in my remembrance it has developed to a degree which is almost bewildering. I am here referring to the Post Office and its work, or the many changes in it, that I now wish to direct attention. In Willoughby's Directory of 1799, on p. 60, in a list of "Offices (7) and streets where kept, &c.," it says "Post Office, High-street, John Raynor"; and in the Directory on p. 28 will be found "Raynor John,

'Seedsman' and Postmaster, High-street."

He could positively boast of having one "letter carrier," which considering that the time was during "last century but one" without doubt makes a considerable difference. Under these circumstances it would be a pity for his sole assistant's name to be overlooked, and therefore I give it as inserted on page 9, namely—"Crofts Thomas, Letter-carrier, Greyfriargate." As far as I can make out, I have now given the names of "all the officials" who attended to and carried on the work of the Nottingham Post Office in the year 1799.

I have little doubt that at the present time as many letters (but probably considerably more) pass through the Nottingham Post Office in a week than was the case then in a year. It will be observed that the Postmaster was obliged to carry on a business of his own to eke out a living.

I will now give some account of the Nottingham Post Office as it was seventy years since, and when I remember it, though young. This is about thirty-four years after the date mentioned first, but the office still remained in High-street, though I have good reasons for believing that it had been removed to the opposite side, and into High-street-place. Mr. George Kepple White was Postmaster, but now there is little doubt that the allowance or remuneration from his post would be sufficient to provide him with what was necessary.

By this period, proportionately, a considerable change had taken place in the staff, for he actually had four men to direct, namely:—Mr. W. G. Neilson, the office clerk (see White's Directory), the letter carriers (3) being John Simpson, Byard-lane; William Brown, Coalpit-lane; and Joseph Fletcher, Parliament-street. I remember William Brown well, and if it was possible for me to see him now amongst a number of others I think I could pick him out.

When he brought letters to where I then lived, as none were prepaid in 1833, there was generally a most important question to be asked, namely, "How Much?" (that was to pay), and the answer varied generally, I believe, from sixpence to eightpence, though some letters

cost tenpence when brought a longer distance. Many if not all the letters had the amount marked upon them, and I could probably yet find a few relics of that sort.

Possibly there might be some letters for which the charge was fourpence, but that would be for such as came from places near, and I believe there was nothing less than that, even if so little. The Nottingham Post Office at that time was announced to close "At 10 at night and open every morning at 7, from April to October, and at 8 during the rest of the year."

There were stringent laws at that period against unauthorised persons carrying or delivering letters, and when in the country about 66 years since I remember as a youth receiving letters disguised as small parcels, with bits of wood, &c., wrapped up with them. These were then brought by village carriers. This subject will probably be continued.

OLD NOTTINGHAM.

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XIV.

The thoroughfare to be noticed first in this article will be Hollow-stone. In living memory, as regards building, it has in appearance scarcely differed from what it now is, except by the addition of a large warehouse at its north-west angle. It appears to be first mentioned in Vol. I., p. 433 of the Borough Records in 1357, though I consider we have good cause for supposing that there are documents belonging to the Corporation in which it is referred to at a still earlier date. The period mentioned is approximately 550 years since.

As with many other of the old town streets or roads, our ancestors spelled its name in different ways, as follows:—Hologate, Holough-stone, Holoweston, Holow Ston, and Holow-ston. Great changes have certainly taken place in connection with this roadway in the course of time as regards its width and level, or gradient. Of this we may obtain some information from the Borough Records and other sources. There seems cause for doubting whether it was much more than a footway when going back three hundred and fifty to four hundred years.

Its importance in olden times must proportionately have been very considerably less whilst it was possible to describe it in one case as being "Near Malyn-hill." From what Deering tells us on p. 4, until 1740 the passage was so narrow that probably vehicles could not pass, for in reference to the Corporation he speaks of "their design of making the Hollow-stone a more gradual descent, and enlarging the south entrance into the town so that two or more carriages may conveniently pass each other, to which purpose men were set to work on Tuesday, 17th December, 1740, and this useful and pleasant way into the town was completed in a few weeks."

The ground or rock on the north is much higher than the opposite side, and I have no doubt it was so in its natural state, and that it fell towards the south. On the north the excavation is, I believe, of the greatest when at or near to the lowest part of the hill on that side.

In the part I mention are two houses, the entrance to each of which is in a passage. The building is five stories in height, and of these the three bottom stories alone belong to the two houses in Hollow-stone, and at the back of them the cliff or ground must be nearly thirty feet above the street, for the top stories are let off as two tenements, access to which is by Tree-yard in Plumptre-street. It is probably near this part, where the road has been sank the most below the original level of the ground.

Whilst the alterations were being made in 1740 a house was pulled down which was in the way, and had been given to the town by the Duke of Kingston. We are told that it was "against, and upon the rock," and probably on the northern side of the road, as that, in bulk, was the most rocky side. I am decidedly of opinion that since 1680 to 1685 Hollow-stone has been lowered or sunk from the level of Short-hill to what it is at the present date.

I fortunately possess a large and fine old engraving of that part of the town, dating back approximately to the period I have just named, and on it the whole width of the roadway from the rocky cliff on the northern side to the houses on the southern side on Short-hill is of the same height and level across, being also unobstructed by any fence to Short-hill as at present.

This hill is mentioned in the Records in connection with a new well in March, 1661, and under these and other circumstances it would be interesting if it was possible to have Short-hill fully described, but in history we find very little respecting it. The only occasion where I have at present observed any reference to it in the Records is in 1662, when the Council decided:—"That the present Chamberlyns shall pay unto some discreet person, inhabitant upon the Short-hill, the some of forty shillings

towards the sinkings of a draw well there."

At the time stated (1685-90), judging by the large old engraving, the cliff on the northern side of Hollow-stone was much less in height than now, and the edge of it is bordered by a number of trees. No buildings are shown upon that side when going down the hill until within a short distance of Bellar-gate.

In the Records, Vol. V., p. 152, connected with "Reparacions" there is an item which is somewhat enigmatical. It says "for carriage of stoops and rayles to the Hollowston and Broad-lane, and laying them at the Rowell (a small stream or sewer) in Lister-gate." Respecting "stoops" the editor in a note says that they are "rails," which is, I consider, incorrect, for that would make the wood taken there to be all "rayles" or rails, and if so without doubt they would all have been called by that name, and not a part only.

In Lloyd's Encyclopaedic Dictionary we are told that a "stoop" is (1) a "post" fastened in the earth, a "stump"; (2) a pillar. I have constantly heard that old word used during my time in and near Nottingham, and always with the idea of conveying the same meaning as the word "post." It was usually pronounced "stoope," "stoupe," or "stope," and also "stulpe," with exactly the same purport, has now and then been used (see Vol. III., p. 502), but "stolpe" I have rarely heard of.

Respecting the carriage of "stoopes and rails to Hollowston," and laying them at the Rowell in Lister-gate, why were they taken to Hollowston if they had to be "laid" elsewhere? There is a vagueness and uncertainty in the "item" which must be left for the editor of Vol. V. to explain. In connection with thoroughfares near to St. Mary's Church I may probably suggest a place for the "stoopes and rayles" in a future article, judging by the knowledge to be acquired from the before-mentioned old engraving.

We are there shown that when it was published (approximately 220 years since) that more small houses were on Short-hill than large ones, and generally of two storeys, but few now remain which were there at the date mentioned.

Old St. Mary's Vicarage is shown, but the large old family house to the west of it, and the three old residences to the east, have since been erected, though now much transformed in being made suitable for lace warehouses.

In my time the recently-used Vicarage as such has been rebuilt, in accordance with modern ideas. At present I do not know who in former years owned as their town house the one mentioned to the west, though as regards the first three to the east I have a knowledge of the old names of people once occupying them, but not of the particular house or houses they lived in, though possibly it might be acquired without much difficulty, as the title deeds would explain that fully.

In my Twenty-Third Article I extract from an old book of account the fact that Mrs. Gregory paid two shillings and sixpence per year to the Corporation as an acknowledgement for permission to use a road under Short-hill to get into her house there. This was in the year 1773. On January 17th, 1781, Mrs. Susannah Gregory, one of an old and noted family in the town, died at her house on Short-hill. She appears to have been possessed of considerable wealth, was of a generous disposition, and taken to Denton, near Grantham, for interment.

Strange to say that during the eighteenth century two persons were hung who were connected with Short-hill, or Hollow-stone, and each it will be allowed were in position much above what is ordinary. The eldest was driven by his own coachman to the gallows. They were both of the vilest disposition, and lost to all sense of honour or self-respect. One was an old sinner, and the other a young one.

I have what appears to be a contemporaneous account of the first. He is entitled William Andrew Horne, "Esq.," and was the eldest son of a gentleman possessing a considerable amount of property at Butterley, Derbyshire. The father was supposed to have been at the time one of the best classical scholars in the county, and endeavoured to instruct his son, but from over-indulgence and other very undesirable causes little progress was made, and he spent much of his life unrestrained by law or morality.

He was charged at the County Hall, Nottingham, on August 10th, 1759, with the wilful murder of a young child many years previously, which he had brought from Butterley to Annesley in Nottinghamshire, and placed in a bag (at night) under a haystack. He had proposed to have left it at the hall if possible, but the dogs gave an alarm, and caused him to return a short distance to the stack, where the child was afterwards found, but life was extinct.

A younger son, Charles, was to some extent concerned in taking the child, but the elder, who inherited most if not all of their father's property, took and placed the child under the stack, and always conducted himself towards his brother in the harshest and most unbecoming manner and allowed him to live almost as a common labourer, which at last provoked Charles to give information of what had once occurred, which after a considerable interval resulted in his brother's imprisonment, trial, and condemnation for wilful murder. Charles promised before the trial that, as he was the most important witness against his brother, he would leave the country if William would provide him with £5, but this was bluntly refused.

There was an immense number of people at his execution on Gallows-hill, a considerable portion of them coming from Derbyshire. He completed his seventy-fourth year on that day, and regretted that he could not have his accustomed plum pudding on the anniversary. As remarked, he was driven by his own coachman, he riding uncovered, and the procession proceeded from the County Hall up Mansfield-road to the place of execution.

His Nottingham house was situated in Hollow-stone, and it is still associated with his name, though in my time and remembrance a little change has been made in its outward appearance. It faces up the hill, is four if not five storeys high, and now a public-house named "Horne's Castle." It is rather peculiar as a building, and I think the ground at the back must be fifteen to eighteen feet higher than the road on the front.

I have a full recollection sixty-five years since or more of making a call upon someone on those

premises with an aged relative, who would be alive a short time after Horne's execution, and by whom the circumstances were afterwards explained to me.

In the chancel of the church at Stanton-on-the-Wolds Sir John Parsons, Bart., is buried, who was Lord of the Manor, and died in 1704, aged 48 years. He was succeeded by his son, Sir William Parsons, Bart., who erected a good town residence on Short-hill. Of the three old town mansions eastward of, but nearest to St. Mary's Old Vicarage, this was no doubt one, and I have often wondered which, but believed it to be the second and middle one, which appears to be the largest. I cannot be certain who owned the third house, though according to Willoughby's Directory Robert Dennison, Esq., was living on Short-hill in 1799, and possibly he may have been the proprietor.

Sir William had two sons, the eldest of whom was also named William, and born in 1717. He was sent to one of the best schools of the time (Eton), but though attending it for eight or nine years, made little progress, and being detected when stealing from a bookseller's shop, he was sent to sea, with the hope that it might be the cause of an amendment, but whilst in the West Indies he took an early opportunity to desert, and returned home, when, his conduct becoming abominably depraved and corrupt, he was shipped as a midshipman to Newfoundland, and on his return he found himself slighted by old friends.

He was then persuaded to accept a post on the West Coast of Africa under the Governor, on the River Gambia, and stayed about six months, but, notwithstanding the precautions adopted to prevent his leaving the dependency, he escaped and returned to England. In a short time after he married a young lady living near London, who possessed a fair amount of property. He then entered the army as an ensign in the 34th Regiment of Foot, and appears to have seen some active service with his regiment in Flanders, but his most extravagant mode of living and great losses by gambling soon compelled him to leave the army, and he again returned to England, a beggar and

a ~~leader~~.

He saw various "ups and downs," and then for fraud or forgery was sentenced to seven years' transportation. At that period he and others (about 160 years since) were sent to Maryland, now one of the United States of America. Someone residing there who had known his family in England befriended him, and managed to obtain his freedom (in that part), and he requited this very kind act by stealing his friend's horse, and turned highway robber, but afterwards managed to get to England once more.

In a short time subsequently he was arrested, and tried for returning from transportation before the expiration of the term mentioned in his sentence, and, according to the law of that period for such a breach, he was sentenced to be hung, and was executed at Tyburn on February 11th, 1751. If he had lived ten years longer he would have succeeded his father in the title and estates.

His brother John was for a number of years Vicar of Arnold, and Sir William Parsons resided with him during the latter part of his life, and, dying, was buried there. The William Parsons who was executed left a son, Mark, who succeeded his grandfather at his death to the estates and title in 1760. He lived in a very quiet and retired manner near London, and died there in 1812, leaving no successor.

It is a strange fact that until 1901 the villagers at Stanton-on-the-Wolds, from tradition, had an idea that it was Sir John Parsons, Bart. (buried there in 1704), who was hung, whereas it was his grandson William Parsons, who suffered the extreme penalty of the law, forty-seven years after his grandfather's death, or in 1751. It was with pleasure that I rectified this very strange notion when at Stanton in the summer of 1901. In this latter instance I have been enabled to make much use of a copy of the "Manuscripts Relating to the County of Nottingham in the possession of Mr. James Ward, of Nottingham," which in many cases are of great value.

OLD NOTTINGHAM.

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XV.

In this communication I wish to first refer to Butcher's Close, with the street afterwards made through it, and named from it, of which a commencement was made very early last century, for in a poll book dated 1806 I have seen "Butcher-lane" mentioned, which to my mind is proof that the thoroughfare was then being used, but not generally occupied with buildings. In all cases it is probable that more or less time is required before the old name of a street or road is with the public fully superseded by a new one. In Article 29, p. 176. I refer to the strong dislike manifested by some of the old people to changes of titles.

By 1812 no doubt a number of houses had been built in Butcher-street, but when, voting half stated that they lived in that street and the other half asserted that they resided in "Butcher's Close" (the old name). In future poll books Butcher-street was gradually and generally accepted as the title, but it was nearly forty years after being so named, and when (practically) all the old folks had died off.

In former times, and probably in the memory of a few who are still left with us, the Leen passed under what is now termed London-road, and on its eastern side it was not much more than one hundred yards to the south of Plumptre-square (as now called), or Plumptre Hospital with its ground; and the land between them was called "Butcher's Close." It reached (eastward) most or all of the way to the little rivulet called the Beck, in the angle formed by its junction with the Leen.

In my time there was no outlet at the east end of Butcher-street, when it reached the Beck, which was, and perhaps I may even now say is, the extent on that side of the old Nottingham borough. The opposite side of the Beck was a field, but it was also in Sneinton parish, and if described at this time I imagine that fact might

have to be mentioned.

It is thoroughly against my wish to act the part of critic or censor, and it is only as a matter of duty that I refer to a statement respecting this close in the fifth volume of the "Borough Records." But this is an official work, as regards the city, and I consider that as far as possible it ought, specially under such circumstances, to be correct and reliable, and that there is a reasonable claim upon us all to do our part in making it so.

On page 447 of vol. 5, when referring to the thoroughfare under consideration, the editor says: "Butcher's close . . . in Fletcher-gate." Undoubtedly this is a singular error which I must leave to the editor for explanation. It is true that the field is located by him in the neighbourhood where the butchers or "fleshewers" in olden times had their headquarters, though at that period it was entitled "Fleshewer-gate." In my fourteenth article I have explained how, in the course of about two hundred years, "Fleshewer-gate" (Butcher-gate) was transposed to "Fletcher-gate" (Arrow-makers-gate), but this was in the centre of the town, the fields there being very rare, and there were none of a good size like Butchers' Close.

In that part (so very central) the "fields," if they exceeded an acre, would proportionately be large. There were several acres of land, it is true, attached to a large house which once fronted to Swinegreen (of which more will afterwards be said), but its situation was totally different to Fletcher-gate, though even here the ground was considerably less in size than Butcher's Close, which was on the outside of the town wall, and a portion of meadow land always liable to be flooded; it was really a part of the Eastcroft.

In the "Records," vol. 5, p. 178, these last statements are fully verified in a "presentment" of the Mickletorn jury, 1636—October 13, when they say: "We present the Leene for want of scowering against Eastcrofte and Butcher's Close: Maister Richards." (Probably in his occupation.) This extract of itself fully proves that Butcher's Close was against the Leen and the Eastcroft, and that it could not possibly be

in the middle of the town where stated; but perhaps this did not come under the notice of the editor of that volume.

Many years since the butchers of the town in a court of law claimed, and endeavoured to prove, that as such they had certain rights in this field, but their efforts were not successful. Under these circumstances there can be little doubt that it was once town property, if not so now.

A very short time since, when looking round Plumptre-square, I was again astonished and pained to find that another old historic street name had been, with gross thoughtlessness and indiscretion, changed for a title which early in last century was without doubt imported from London, but in Nottingham is meaningless, and as compared with the old one entirely unbecoming and out of place, for it supplants most culpably another of the old place names and land marks, associating us for centuries with the past.

I am referring to Butcher-street. This thoroughfare to my amazement, when in it about a month since, I found had been renamed "Poplar-street." I cannot tell how long that has been the case, but it was first brought to my knowledge as stated, for I am not often in that locality nor in the least prepared for such an unjustifiable substitution, and with many others can only look with pity upon those who cannot see the impropriety of their actions when carrying out such worse than useless changes.

In article 12, page 63, I give a short account of Fisher-gate and its undesirable condition, without causeways, &c. (1750), and during some part of the year of the muddy and terribly bad state of the roads in and near it. I have no doubt whatever that there has been a considerable raising of the level in that locality, but especially in Plumptre-square, which, with good drainage and paving of the best kind, makes it, I think, as good as we can expect, and better than many other places.

Anyone close to the bottom of Hollow-stone will observe that the way across the square to London-road, especially on the northern part, has been raised the most, and that on the eastern side in Fisher-gate there is a depression

of probably two feet or more, and much the same on the west side near to the bottom of Malin-hill.

In the last paragraph of article 15, page 87, I make a brief reference to Malin Hill, the lower end of which is entered from the north-west corner of Plumptre-square. Though really not much more than a footpath, it was, I consider, in olden times constantly used from the number of occasions on which it is mentioned in the Borough Records. To a large extent I believe this to have been necessitated by the condition of Hollow-stone in olden times; which, at the lower end especially, was probably steep, and difficult to ascend, and if so, it would cause this alternative walk or footway to be more utilised.

From various causes I believe that horses, &c., were frequently led up that pathway in olden times, though it would then most probably be unpaved, and merely a sandy passage. In volume 5, page 449, in reference to this part, is an entry as follows: "Malinge Hill, Maylin Hill, going down to the Marsh." This is certainly a misconception, for when at the top most people, to save time and distance, would go down Long Stairs to get to Narrow-marsh; as the bottom of Malin Hill was in "Bridgend" (now Plumptre-square).

Fisher-gate is an old thoroughfare. The earliest reference to it I have noticed in the Borough Records is on page 431, volume 1. which takes us back to A.D. 1315, or nearly 590 years since. Our ancestors had various ways of spelling the name, such as Fesshergate, Fisshergate (Vicus Piscatorum), Fyshergate, and Fysshergate, and Fysshargat. It has, generally speaking, I believe, run a more uneventful course than many of the other old streets in Nottingham. For a long period it was for that part, the outer street of the town.

The land belonging to Nottingham extended southward to the Trent, but the east end of Fisher-gate was probably within two hundred yards of the Beck, which little stream divided the borough from Sneinton in that locality. On the Nottingham side there was a stile—(it was a footway) and on the Sneinton side of the

stile (in an excellent old engraving) some planks to walk on appear to be fixed over the rivulet. Here was the old "Pennyfoot Stile."

Respecting Plumptre's Hospital, Deering also tells us that it is the most ancient of all the hospitals in Nottingham. "John de Plumptre, a merchant of the Staple of Calais, living in Nottingham in the reign of King Richard II., of whom he obtained licence, dated at Nottingham, 16 of Richard II the 8th of July, A.D. 1392, to found and endow within the said town an hospital or house of God, consisting of two chaplains, whereof one should be the master or guardian of the said hospital, and thirteen old and poor widows."

He built the hospital and a chapel (Chantry) adjoining thereto, "as appears by the instrument of foundation dated in Nottingham the 12th July, 1400, which was confirmed by Richard, Archbishop of York, the same year, July 22nd," &c., &c. There is evidence about ten years previous to this time that he had fully decided to build a hospital, for in the records, volume 1 pages 249—253, there is an account of two occasions on which he purchased houses and gardens adjoining. The first was enrolled on November 30th, 1390, and the second on December 24th, 1390, and on each occasion mention is made of the hospital almost as though it might have then been erected.

Fisher-gate alone is mentioned in connection with the hospital in these two cases, but it must be understood that at this period, and for nearly if not quite four hundred years later, the houses on the south side of Fisher-gate were the last in the town at that part, and it is probable there was not one house between that side of the road and the Trent. As I have previously explained there was no Butcher-street until rather less than one hundred years since.

The first hospital, after erection, probably stood for two hundred and fifty years, or until about A.D. 1650. Of this building we obtain a fair idea from a good engraving in "Deering's Nottingham" (1750). It was in a very poor condition and pulled down in 1823, the present building being then commenced, and finished the next year.

That the hospital urgently needed attention is proved by what Orange tells us in his history, when the question was raised and discussed in the year 1822, whether or not it should be re-erected, he says "that the hospital was an ancient building, having been rebuilt about the year 1650, and in great decay; and that from the raising of the street three or four feet above the basement floor it had become a very inconvenient and unwholesome habitation; and that it was absolutely necessary that the same should be entirely rebuilt," &c., &c.

It is specially to the part respecting the street being raised three or four feet that I wish now to refer. Deering on page 17 notices the state of Bridge End in 1641, or a few years before the first rebuilding of the Hospital (1650), and calls it "deep and miry," and it might reasonably be expected that we should find it so when the ground was three or four feet lower than at present, as there would practically be no fall for the drainage. At the same time it gives us a good idea how little our ancestors thought about drainage and other (to us in recent times) most important sanitary matters.

This hospital, no doubt, is capable of, and is doing a great amount of good in Nottingham, for in addition to the inmates of the building itself there were, many years back, according to Orange, thirty out-pensioners, and if that is not the exact number at the present time, from the great increase in value of the property belonging to the foundation, and in the amount of rents, it is probable that the out-pensioners are now considerably greater in number.

I wish for a short time to refer once more to the the "Ducking days" of 1794-95, to make amends for a lapse of memory. It is in relation to what occurred when an attempt was made to seize Mr. Joseph Woodhouse for the purpose of ducking him. He was a framesmith, whose premises were in St. Mary's-gate, on its eastern side, and probably about thirty to forty yards from the Warser-gate end.

Between sixty and seventy years since I remember some old workshops there being occupied, as I believe, by Messrs. Brookes and Mason, joiners, which I have no doubt one

hundred and ten years since were in the possession of Mr. Woodhouse as mentioned. The site of these shops is now included in the the warehouse of Thomas Adams and Company, Limited.

Mr. Woodhouse was one of those who then objected, as practically all people would now, to the declaring or carrying on of war with the French for the purpose of forcing upon them a regime or government which they had repudiated and disowned. When returning to his works on one occasion he observed a suspicious gathering of men, who gradually increased in number, not far off, and whom, he was confident, had evil intentions towards himself, and being a youngish man he started off at his greatest speed towards his business premises, and was immediately followed by them. Luckily he reached his workshops first and managed to get inside, but closely followed by the mob.

His workmen were quickly informed of the circumstances, when, having some hotted irons in the fires, and promptly heating others, they threatened his assailants that they would most certainly use them in defence of Mr. Woodhouse or the premises if attacked. It may easily be imagined that in such a dispute a red-hot iron "would be likely to prove most weighty and convincing" in argument; therefore, perceiving from the decided attitude adopted by the men that they would be unable to carry out their intentions upon Mr. Woodhouse, the rabble gradually dispersed.

Full sixty years since I received these particulars from Mr. James Smith who was a resident during this period, and the whole of the French war, on the opposite side of St. Mary's-gate to Mr. Woodhouse's premises, where he could see all that took place, and who ended a long life about fifty-seven years since on Toll House-hill (Derby-road).

I am favoured with the friendship of a venerable lady, whom to know is to respect. I cannot remember the time when her features were strange to me; she forms a most interesting and unusual link with the century before last, being a niece of the Mr. Joseph Woodhouse who has just been noticed. I am glad to say that

she is still residing in the city, though from length of years unfortunately very infirm.

On page 39 of "Willoughby's Directory of Nottingham" (1799) may be found the following entry:—"Joseph Woodhouse, framesmith, Mary's-gate." At that time he must have been carrying on business for some years, as "the ducking time" was about 1794.

OLD NOTTINGHAM.

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XVI.

In this article I desire to continue my remarks respecting the Post Office, or Offices, in succession at Nottingham during the last hundred years, and possibly add a few particulars relating to matters indirectly connected with that department, when mail coaches, gigs, &c., will probably be considered.

I have previously observed that more than a century since the Nottingham Post Office was at the shop of Mr. John Rayner, a seedsman in High-street (1799). It appears that it must have remained on that side of the street for about thirty-four years longer, and to have been removed in my time, for White in his "History and Directory of Nottinghamshire" (1832) tells us that "the Post Office in High-street has long been too small and inconvenient for the extent of its business; but a new and more appropriate building is now erecting on the opposite side of the street by the Duke of Newcastle for the use of that branch of the public revenue."

There is full evidence in the fact that the new building was not a Governmental erection, to explain how differently the Post Office was estimated by the public and the Government at that period, to what it is or has been the case of late years. It would be hard to believe that in any large town or city there is a single individual who would undertake the responsibility of erecting the great buildings which in recent years have been required for such purposes.

"The Blackmoor's Head" Inn and Posting-house, or, as we should now term it, "Hotel," was to some extent pulled down and alterations made in the building during the latter half of 1830. Of its kind it had for many years been noted. It was at the north-east corner of High-street, and including the yard, &c., occupied also a considerable frontage up Pelham-street. It was the property of the Duke of Newcastle, and shortly

after the changes mentioned he erected fresh quarters for the Post Office at the top of High-street-place. It was used for that purpose barely three years.

From that spot, with a brief interval, it was removed to Bridlesmith-gate, on its eastern side, by 1834, and a little more north than the top of Pepper-street; I consider the premises now occupied by the Nottingham Permanent Benefit Building Society, or the north part of Lloyds Bank, to be upon or close to the site of that old Post Office. There will be no difficulty with most in believing that the business of the office would be likely to increase to a large degree, and shortly exceed the capacity of such premises for conveniently carrying on the business, when it is known that it was during the time the penny postage was initiated; that this office, which was once a house continued to be the postal headquarters in Nottingham, both then and for several years after.

The next removal was to the north-east corner of Albert-street, which was not formed, however, until 1846; and then at least another year must be allowed for the erection and fitting up of the new building; and it is probable that the new premises were not occupied before the end of 1847. In this instance the building was, I believe (as it is now), the property of the Corporation. It was materially larger than the one previously used in Bridlesmith-gate, but the postal business constantly went on increasing until the accommodation was again insufficient.

On this occasion the Government purchased some land at the south-east corner and upper end of Victoria-street, and raised a considerably larger building in 1868. Business, however, continued greatly to expand, and in a few years it was thought advisable to add another storey to the structure. This found accommodation for a number of years additional, and probably until about 1895, when it was considered necessary to erect a very much larger edifice, and it resulted in the purchase of ground and the construction of the great building which has been occupied several years in Queen-street.

I ought to have said, respecting A.D. 1846, and shortly before the Post Office was removed from Bridlesmith-gate, that Mr. O. T. Oldknow was made Postmaster of Nottingham. I remember the incident well. He was one of the Sheriffs under the old municipal law, and when, as the town was of old divided into two boroughs (French and English), it had two sheriffs, two coroners, two chamberlains, &c., but only one Mayor. Mr. Oldknow was Sheriff in 1806 and Mayor in 1822-3 and 1829-30. He succeeded Mr. J. Crosby as Postmaster, who I am glad to know is still worthily represented in the city by a grandson, a solicitor.

Considering the immense proportions of the present Post Office, I think we may all feel much more assured than was the case previously, that it will be able to meet all that is likely to be required from it for many years. It would be very interesting, if possible, to be supplied with the information respecting the number of persons now engaged or employed in connection with the Post Office at Nottingham for the purpose of comparing them with those mentioned in the years 1799 and 1832.

It is almost exciting to read of the wonderful change which has taken place during the last seventy years, not only as regards the buildings in which the postal work has been transacted, but also in matters relating to the increase of business and various facilities, the arrival and despatch of mails, delivery of letters, &c. In 1832 the letter bags for London and the South were made up at 3 p.m., and were received from that part at 10 a.m., but no mail bags were sent to London on Saturday nor received from there on Monday.

Letter bags for Leeds and the North were made up at 9.30 a.m., and arrived from there at 5.30 a.m. Mail gigs ran to and from Derby and the West, and Newark and Lincoln with the county and the East; there were return bags, and the same to Loughborough and Stamford. The London mail coach went by Melton, Bedford, &c. The London express left every morning at eight, the Leeds express coach started every morning at eight, the Manchester and Liverpool coach, "Lord Nelson," left every

morning at 5.45, going through **Matlock**.

The Birmingham "Dart" went by **Castle Donington**, **Ashby**, and **Tamworth**, at 8 a.m., on all days except Sunday. Two coaches ran to **Derby** daily, and one to **Newark**. The "Pilot" ran to **Leicester** every morning at 6.45, by way of **Loughborough**, and returned at 7 p.m.

In 1832 there were four places specially in **Nottingham** from which coaches generally started, or called at, when passing through the town. These were the **Lion Hotel** in **Clumber-street**, and of those starting there, many belonged to **Thomas and John Simpson and Co.** I have a full recollection of that name. The next was the **Milton's Head Inn**, at the southern end of **Milton-street**. This place was much used by **Benjamin Bower and Co.** Then there was the **Black Boy Inn** and the **Maypole Inn**, each on or near to the **Long-row**.

I should have mentioned that the mail gigs were allowed to take parcels but not passengers. Respecting these, one started for **Derby** from the **Crown and Anchor**, **Bridge-street** (**London-road**) every morning at 6.30; one to **Loughborough**, from the **Durham Ox**, **Pelham-street**, at 3.30 p.m.; the third, to **Newark** and **Lincoln**, also started from the **Durham Ox** every morning at 4.30, and the public were informed that "Parcels for the North arrived one day sooner in the North by this conveyance than by any other which leaves **Nottingham**"; which must, of course, have been a great inducement for people to make use when possible of this carriage.

In my young days I have a recollection of going into the **Market-place** on some occasions when anything exciting had occurred or was occurring to obtain information respecting it from any passengers with the coaches, though it is probable that one of the most interesting times for lads to meet the vehicles as they came into the town was after a heavy fall of snow, when eight horses would generally be attached to them and possibly two more occasionally (four to five pairs).

I will now give a transcript of an advertisement by **John Simpson and Co.** respecting several of their coaches which appeared in the local papers full sixty-five years since, namely,

September 14, 1838. It commences:—"Lion Hotel Coach Office, Nottingham. The Public and Trade are respectfully informed that the Express Coach now leaves the above Inn for London daily, at the old-established hour, Quarter-past Seven o'Clock in the Evening. The proprietors are sorry the Trade should have been so much inconvenienced in the transmission of their goods, &c., by the interruption of other parties, and trust they have attained a final arrangement.

"In consequence of the London and Birmingham Railway opening throughout on Monday, the 17th instant, the following alteration will take place, viz.:—"The Nottingham and London Times Day Coach will leave the Lion Hotel at half-past seven every morning, Sundays excepted, to the station at Road, near Northampton, and arrive at Euston-square Station, London, at forty-five minutes past six in the evening; will leave Euston-square, London, at Eleven o'Clock in the Morning, and arrive in Nottingham at forty minutes past nine in the evening.

"The Brilliant Day Coach will leave the Lion Hotel and Maypole Inn alternately at a quarter-past Twelve o'Clock at Noon, Saturdays excepted, to the Station at Rugby, and arrive at Euston-square Station, London, at Ten o'Clock in the Evening; will leave London at Eight o'Clock in the Morning, and arrive in Nottingham at five o'clock in the evening, and proceed forward to Sheffield."

The railway here spoken of is the London and North-Western, which was opened, it appears, on the 17th September, 1838; but the first train on the Midland system from this locality, consisting of the Midland Railway directors and their friends, ran from Nottingham to Derby on May 30, 1839. As regards the two last coaches mentioned in the advertisement, they ran to stations on the London and North-Western Railway, and no doubt the passengers were then taken by train to London, and returned to Nottingham in a similar manner to that by which they went.

The Lion Hotel at this period was in character quite different to what is at present the case.

But little variation occurred in the site belonging to the old building, as regards the present White Lion Hotel and its frontage to the street; but the former stood back probably eight or ten yards, the area on the front being flagged and descending towards the hotel.

Whilst engaged with this I have by me a small and very old handbill directly connected with the subject under consideration. It certainly is probable that it was issued in London, but possible that the coach may have passed through or near to Nottingham on its journey. The following is a copy:—"London and York Flying Machines, in two days, from the Swan Inn, Holborn Bridge, London, and from the Black Swan Inn, Coney-street, York, every Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights, at ten o'clock.

Inside pay ... £1 15s. 0d.

Outside pay ... £1 0s. 0d.

(The comparative value of money was probably three times greater at that date than it is now.)

"The above machines have good conveniency for carrying luggage, small parcels, and game, which will be delivered the same night they arrive in London and York if required. The proprietors will not be accountable for money, plate, jewels, watches, rings, writings, nor any parcel above the value of ten pounds, unless entered and paid for as such. *No glass insured.—By Haworth, Jackson, and Co." From the style of printing, and where the old tall "S" is frequently used and other circumstances, I have little doubt that this announcement dates back at least one hundred years, but probably to the century before last.

In 1834 Dearden tells us of various "Royal Patent Coaches." I am not fully certain respecting the difference between those and others, though when quite young I have a decided recollection of springs being much spoken about, and consider the "patent" to have been connected with their use, and that they were more in accordance with modern ideas. The introduction of the present sort of steel springs for vehicles occurred in my time.

I remember hearing of various occasions when coaches were overturned, and remarks being

made of there being something come into use which would cause such a misfortune to be far less probable in the future, and most certainly the expected remedy was the employment of springs. We shall not need much persuading that the "jaunts" about the country by our forbears, with springless conveyances, were not to be compared in comfort with those used in recent times. They might truly be called "boneshakers."

I should have mentioned that all coaches were named, and amongst those starting from or running through Nottingham in 1834 were—The Royal Times, Royal Dart, Lord Nelson, The Wonder, The Imperial, The Pilot, The Rapid, The Express, The Hero, Royal Sovereign, The Defiance, The Royal Hope, The Courier, The Champion, The Water Witch, The Celerity, Hark Forward, The Age, The Union, The Perseverance, The Commercial, &c.

In addition to this mode of conveyance there were others which would in a large degree be used for the carrying of goods by land and water. Pickford and Co. advertised—"Caravans on springs and guarded (for conveyance of goods only) leave Nottingham for London, Manchester, and Liverpool every morning at five o'clock, and for Sheffield and Leeds every evening at seven. Goods for London must be delivered the previous night." They had then "fly waggons" to very numerous places, and possibly passengers might be accommodated in them. I have a recollection forty-five to fifty-five years since of frequently talking to a gentleman who at an earlier date had regularly made use of this mode of conveyance.

In 1834 Pickford and Co.'s office was in Carlton-street. Messrs. Deacon and Co.'s "Waggon Warehouse" was in Milton-street, and their business was similar to Pickford's, though it should be said that each had fly boats on the canal for conveying goods. Pettifor and Co.'s Waggon Warehouse was in Hounds-gate; they do not appear to have used boats for water carriage. Messrs. Wheatcroft and Sons and James Sutton and Sons more or less carried goods by water. There were also several others who carried on business in a smaller way, and

of these five different persons made use of the Leen Wharf, Canal-street, belonging to Mrs. Cutts. The above will give a good general idea how certain occupations were conducted in Nottingham and the country generally before the time of railways.

OLD NOTTINGHAM

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE. &c

XVII.

I propose in this article to refer to a number of persons, places, occupations or businesses, &c., as mentioned in Willoughby's Directory of Nottingham, A.D. 1790, commenting upon them in various cases, and comparing them, or occasionally forming a connection with modern times, which by contrast may possibly prove interesting to many readers.

At that date there was an inn called "The Star and Garter," which might probably be the old name for "The Star" formerly at the lower end of Wheeler-gate and the bottom of Hounds-gate. The landlord's name was Adams.

Two Armitages are mentioned who were gardeners, one on Angel-row and the other in Chapel-bar. The latter, or his descendant, was, I have little doubt, occupying the same premises on the west side at the time or just before they were pulled down seventy years since to widen that thoroughfare. As a lad I can remember them. They occupied the corner shop to the west at the top. A Joseph Armitage is noticed as being a fellmonger at the Trent Bridge. From my remembrance of the name in connection with that locality, I think they or their descendants must have remained there until a good portion of last century had passed. Atkins, Richard, is described as being at that date the principal clerk to Messrs. Wright's Bank and dwelling in Mary-gate.

The next is Attenborough, John, surgeon, Beastmarket-hill. Amongst those belonging to the medical profession in Nottingham he took an early and active part during the year 1800 in persuading the people to be vaccinated, and to show his thorough conviction in its efficacy he inoculated his own son, and others shortly followed. As soon as parents were satisfied that the operation was not accompanied by any danger they quickly gathered with their children on Beastmarket-hill, wishing to have them vaccinated. The success of Mr. Attenborough's

endeavours being evident, many others of the profession followed his example.

To an antiquarian having a knowledge of the past connected with Nottingham the little Directory of Willoughby's is most interesting, for at that time (1799) the greater portion, and probably nearly all, of the old and quaint place names were still in constant use. There were Beck Barn (Beck-street), St. James's-lane (now street), Bearward-lane (Mount-street), Bridge-end (Plumpton-square), Cow-lane (Clumber-street), Toll House-hill (Derby-road), Blow-bladder-street (between the lower end of Fletcher-gate and the open part of Weekday-cross)—the Crown and Cushion Inn was also in it at that time; Jew-lane (St. Nicholas's-street), Shoe Booths (south side of Exchange-alley), Boot-lane (Milton-street), Swine-green (Carlton-street). Cherry Orchard.—When this is mentioned by Willoughby it has reference to the Black Lion Inn, which is still in existence, though these remarks apply to the one in Coal-pit-lane, for going back 150 years or more, including the ground on which it stands, with much more near, the Sherwin family owned a cherry orchard, and probably Cherry-place, Sherwin-court, &c., may still be found. Thurland Hall, as a residence, or residences and offices, was occupied by various persons, one of the tenants being Dr. Manson and one an attorney.

Then there was Butt-dike (now Park-row, Hen-cross (The Poultry), and Sandy-lane (Millstone-lane). Paravicini's-row: This was named after Count Paravicini, an Italian, but it is a name that would not always be pronounced correctly by the ordinary Englishman, and I quite agree with the change of title in after years to Count-street. The south-eastern end of that street, I believe, adjoins the bottom end of Barker-gate. Then appears Gridlesmith-gate (Pelham-street), and York-road.

In Deering's map of the town (about 1750), the thoroughfare now called Glasshouse-street was practically a country lane between hedges. Close to one or both of the lower corners where it abutted upon Back-side (Parliament-street), there might be an odd building, but not much

more at that part, and it was entitled "The Road to York." From all that can be gathered I have no doubt that building operations were first carried on near to Mansfield-road, at the top end of that highway, for a considerable number of years before other portions of it, for the lower end (now called Glasshouse-street) does not appear to have had a name given to it until after 1820, as no voter mentioned that as the place of his residence when in the poll booth until a later date.

Regarding the north or upper end of York-road, it was a few years afterwards converted into York-street. Turncalf-alley (Sussex-street): The change of name has no doubt in this case taken a long time to become generally accepted, and I am prepared to say that there are even yet a few left who adhere to the old name. This is a designation which would cause much less regret when changed than many others.

Quaker-lane is mentioned at various times at this date (1799), and I believe it to have been intended as an equivalent for the old thoroughfare, which, for a long period before, and many years afterwards, was, and has been, known as Spaniel-row, but not at that date. I do not doubt that the change of title was caused by the "Friends" building their meeting-house in it about 130 years since.

At this time (1799) Plumptre-place is mentioned, but I consider it to be really applicable to Plumptre-street, of a little later date, in consequence of names being mentioned in it of some persons whom I know to have resided in Plumptre-street, then or immediately afterwards, and the probable reason for this I believe is that the street did not at first reach quite through from Stoney-street to Bellar-gate.

The land forming it was connected with Plumptre House, which, at the above date, stood on the opposite side of Stoney-street, and those living there 150 or 160 years since were, when looking in that direction (eastward), able to see the fields beyond the town, for there were few houses which could possibly obstruct the view. When "Plumptre-street" was first used as a title I believe that the next opening northwards on the same side in Stoney-street

was afterwards named Plumptre-place.

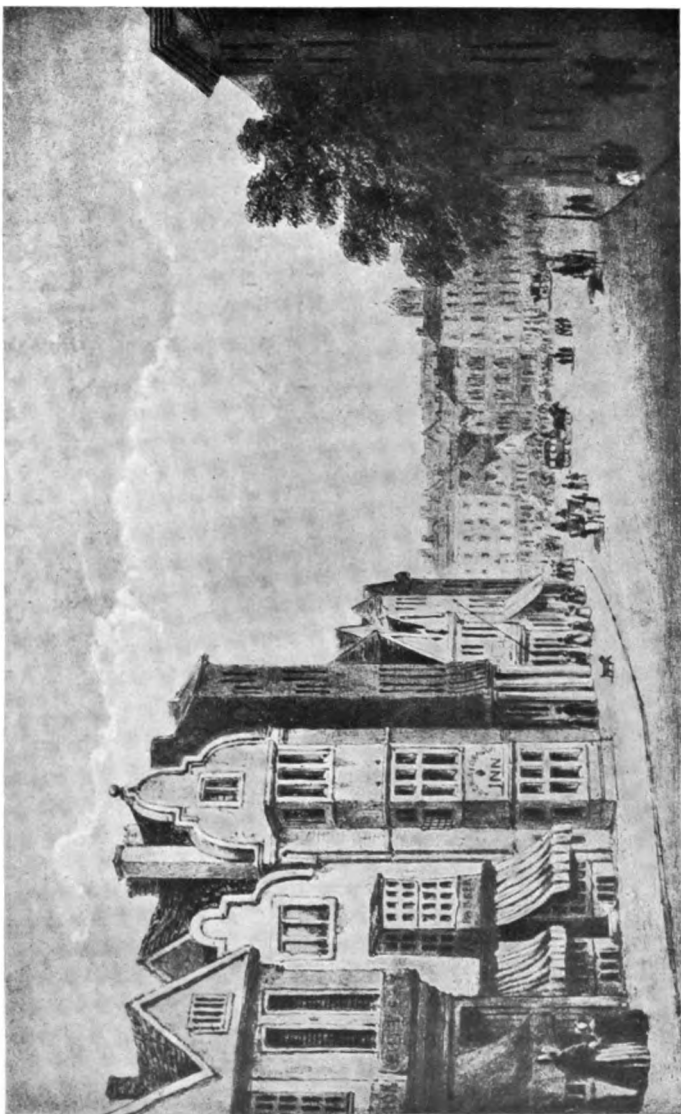
In Deering's map, Moot Hall-gate is the equivalent for what we now term Friar-lane, which at various times is mentioned in the old and little Directory. Deering calls the upper portion of the roadway by that name, and when mentioned by Willoughby it is possible that he also applied it to the same locality. The period when the greatest number of old and interesting names of streets, &c., in Nottingham, were so thoughtlessly and ridiculously superseded by others was in the early part of last century.

Gillyflower-hill is mentioned, and this appears to be the part going down the hill from the upper ends of Hounds-gate or Park-street towards the Boulevard, as now formed. Broad-lane was changed to Broad-street, and, with this included, very few of the old names mentioned by Willoughby are left unnoticed. After this digression and explanation respecting the ancient designations of streets, &c., I will now continue the reference to persons, places, occupations, &c.

The first will be Barber, John, grocer and chandler, Bridge-end. He was grandfather of our aged and respected fellow-citizen of the same name, who has been Alderman and twice Mayor of Nottingham. The next entry is Barber, John, junr., grocer and chandler, Smithy-row. He was no doubt the father of the present Mr. Barber, but there is an omission in his name—it should be John Houseman Barber, who also, though in the time of the unreformed municipalities, became Alderman and Mayor of the town.

In the middle of December, 1820, an attempt was made to assassinate him (whilst talking with Mr. William Roworth, one of the Council and a corn factor), when in his shop at the south-west corner of Hollow-stone. The would-be murderer was at the end of Fisher-gate, and fired at him through the window, but fortunately without effect, and, notwithstanding the great reward of 500 guineas being offered for his apprehension and conviction, he escaped recognition and arrest.

Barnsdal, Nathaniel, Leen-side.—I remember Nathaniel Barnsdal, who was a timber mer-



The lower end of Chapel Bar, 1845.

The first brick house built in Nottingham (1615) is shown. Deering by mistake entitles it "The Green Dragon," but it should be "George and Dragon Inn," as the latter entirely agreed with his description.

chant, 60 to 65 years since, on the Leen-side. Amongst the various avocations then carried on, some, at least in name, are probably not known in recent times. Many women were mantua makers, and some were quilters. Proportionately there are a large number of breeches makers, for, at that date, they were commonly worn by men. Some are still left who can remember the time when pattens and clogs were frequently used, and at that date, and earlier, plenty of makers could be found, for from the muddy state of many unpaved roads and streets they would be greatly needed.

In 1799 there were thirteen attornies in the town, but I have not observed the name of one person who called himself a solicitor; now the case is completely reversed, all are solicitors and we have probably no attornies. Bacon, John, was a pot manufacturer, in Sheep-lane; but that business in Nottingham has died out. Beardmore, Mr., victualler, Bear and Dragon, Long-row, is entered. I specially mention this, in consequence of some of our historians stating that the Derby Arms Inn, formerly at the upper end of Long-row, had in olden times been called "The Green Dragon," and that it was the first brick house built in Nottingham.

I asserted that both statements were entirely incorrect, for I had seen an old deed relating to property immediately adjoining the Derby Arms, of recent times, and it is described as being next to the Bear and Dragon (about one hundred and thirty to one hundred and fifty years since). Then I am glad to possess an excellent old drawing of the lower part of Chapel Bar and first end of Long-row, including the opposite side of the roadway to a similar extent, also two engravings of the same part; and in them all (at that date)—sixty years since—the old building of the George and Dragon complies in almost every particular with the description given by Deering of the first brick house in Nottingham.

Bonnington, Richard, was a drawing-master in Butt-dyke. Respecting Booth, Abraham, boot and shoe maker, Hen Cross, and Booth, Robert, hosier, Plumtree-place, I propose to

say more on another occasion. Boyne, Rev. Lawrence, Catholic Chapel, King's-place. This, in the remembrance of some, was on the west side of Stoney-street, and I think a little nearer Carlton-street than the top of Barker-gate, though on the opposite side of the street. In my time there was a terrace of middle-class houses, facing southwards, the ground being about twelve steps above the causeway. I believe that the back of the premises would adjoin where the warehouse of Messrs. Thomas Adams and Co., Limited, reaches now. The ground was lowered to the street level many years since, preparatory to the erection of warehouses upon it.

Burnside, John, Esq., cotton manufacturer, Beastmarket-hill, will be found on page 6. I imagine him to be connected with the Burn-sides of Gedling. The last name amongst the B's is a noted one, namely, Byron, Right Hon. Lord, at Mr. Gill's, St. James's-lane. The house he resided in was, and still is, at the western corner, at the top of St. James's-street, and entitled Newstoad House. To show the difference of degree in which the streets, &c., were estimated at that time as compared with the present, Captain Cartwright, barrack master, was then living in Broad-marsh.

Cook, William, plumber and glazier, was carrying on business in Blowbladder-street, (between the lower end of Fletcher-gate and Week-day-cross), and there is still someone named Cook carrying on the same business there. Cullen, Thomas, senior and junior, Parliament-street. They occupied an old-fashioned, low, two-storeyed house, where the Burton Buildings are now erected, and someone of that name and trade was still living in that house I believe within thirty years of the present time. Dennis, Mr., victualler, Duke of York, New Buildings. This was in what was formerly termed "The Road to York" by Deering, the lower end being now Glasshouse-street and the upper end was afterwards York-street, but was cleared away when making the Victoria Station about 1896. "New Buildings" are mentioned a number of times about this date (1799).

Derbyshire, James, pipe maker, Mary-gate.

Someone of that name in comparatively recent times was still engaged in the business. Dunn and Biggs, stationers, &c., Market-place. Many will still remember Messrs. Dunn, senior and junior, on Timber-hill (now South-parade). Flamston, Thomas, joiner, Hounds-gate. Someone of the same name and trade, and doubtless descendants, carried on business on the east side of St. Nicholas-street, close to Hounds-gate, until about thirty-five years since.

Gear, William, fishmonger, Market-place. It was probably from him that the old thoroughfare yard took its name, which was afterwards superseded by the much larger, and more important Exchange-walk. Goodacre, Robert, Grammar School, Parliament-street. Ten years after he removed to Standard-hill, where (with intervals) he and his son William carried it on until about 1855 to 1860. Hallam, John, watch maker, Bridlesmith-gate. Many of my older fellow-citizens will remember Messrs. Thomas Hallam, senior and junior, in connection with those premises which were very little southward of the upper end of St. Peter's-gate. I suppose them to have been the son and grandson of Mr. John Hallam. The family is still represented in the city.

Hart, Francis, gentleman, Bridlesmith-gate. He probably was one of the originators of the banking company of Fellows, Mellors, and Hart, and the father of the Francis Hart still well remembered as being connected with the banking firm of Messrs. Hart and Fellows of a more recent date. He (the son) resided in the old family house, at the lower angle of Pepper-street and St. Peter's Church-walk.

In 1799, according to Willoughby, the White Lion Inn was on the Long-row, though the (comparatively) important hotel of that name, which many still living will remember as being much connected with coaches in former days, was, as before explained, in Clumber-street. Hopkinson, George, attorney, Long-row. I have a full recollection of a Mr. Hopkinson in the legal profession, who resided almost opposite to Bromley House. At this date Alderman Benjamin Hornbuckle, hosier, was residing in Narrow-marsh (a few of the town notables still

lived in or near there). Need, Nathaniel, druggist, Long-row. Many of the older residents will no doubt remember Mr. Nathaniel Need, who was a draper in that part.

Langford, Mrs., Mary-gate. This lady I believe to be a descendant of a family of that name which, during the previous hundred and twenty years, had more or less, as Mayor, Sheriff, &c., been connected with the government of the town. Probably the first prominent person of that name was a surgeon in the army of the Commonwealth. They were intimately allied with the Collin family and others, as we read of a Langford Collin, Esq., Langford Neville, Esq., Low-pavement, &c. No doubt that he was a connection of the Langford family, though by this time the male branch had probably died out. In 1799 I believe this to have also been the case with the Collin family, for I have not seen any reference to that name in Willoughby's Directory of Nottingham.

OLD NOTTINGHAM.

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XVIII.

In Willoughby's Directory of 1799, on page 15, is the name of Hall, Thomas, hosier, Angel-row. Thirty-three years later (1832), White, in his Directory, says, "Hall, Thomas, Esq., Angel-row"; and in 1834 Dearden has a similar entry. I remember his old house well, with the large grounds, and the changes which occurred there a short time after his decease. I have sometimes thought, from the great additions to Nottingham since then, that if the property had been set out and arranged in recent times a very different class of buildings would probably have been erected upon his old garden to what has been the case.

He resided in the premises on Angel-row next below H. Barker and Co., Limited, which, soon after his death, were altered into three if not four shops. His house stood back from the road several feet, having an iron fence as a boundary on the front, and about six stone steps to mount when going into it. If noticed, it may be observed that the shops or lower storey in each case project a few feet beyond the upper portion of the building. Before alteration, from the quantity of ground it covered and being, I believe, four storeys high, it certainly had much space and numerous rooms in it.

His garden was of considerable extent backwards, and then turned westward to Mount-street. This is the site on which the whole of Bromley-place was afterwards built. The large, old official map of Nottingham (dated 1829) gives a good idea of the ground. I notice that since the erection of the new premises for Messrs. H. Barker and Co., Limited, the entrance to Bromley-place from Angel-row has been materially widened.

Judging from memory, and being quite a youth at the time, I believe that Mr. Hall died in 1836. I have a recollection of his funeral,

at which there was much form and ceremony, with mutes, &c., &c. Someone with a similar name, about 1841, built the Hall at Whatton-in-the-Vale (the late Mr. Wm. Patterson erected it). If it is not the case now, there was, some years since, a Thomas Dickinson Hall, I believe, residing there, and probably he caused it to be built.

In 1799 Miss Kirkby was living at Nottingham Castle. (I have also seen it "Kirby.") In reference to Langford Collin, &c., I find, at the date just given, that a Mrs. Langford was residing in Mary-gate, and it is probable that she may have been the last representative of that well-known family living in the town.

In the Records, Vol. 5, p. 137, A.D. 1629, there is a singular extract from the Minutes of the Common Council respecting Cornelius Launder, when they resolved that:—"This Companie are nott Willinge thatt Cornelius Launder shall be made a Burgesse, in regard theire bee allreddy twoe pewterers in the towne who have children and apprentices thatt are redly to sett upp trade themselves; and therefore noe necessitie as yet to geve him admittance as a Burgesse."

In Article 22, pp. 127-28, I noticed Lawrence Collin, the founder of that noted family in the town, and the unbecoming treatment which he received from the Corporation. To a certain extent, in this respect, the cases of Cornelius Launder, pewterer, and Lawrence Collin, woolcomber, were similar, for the Council desired to prevent each of them from carrying on business in Nottingham, which most certainly would have resulted in a greater loss to the town than to themselves, for the families of each rose to high stations in the town and county.

Fifty years after the effort in opposition to Lawrence Collin's settlement here, his son Thomas Collin was Mayor and Alderman of Nottingham. In 1702 his grandson, John Collin, was one of the Sheriffs, and in 1713 he was Mayor and Alderman of the town. I have not observed any later date when one of that name held a public office in the town, but Langford Collin afterwards became the possessor of Elton Hall, Nottinghamshire, and re-

sided there. He was also a County Magistrate. His sister, Mary Collin, died in 1773, at the house of her brother, John Collin, Esq., in Weekday-cross, aged 72 years, and he died at his house on the High pavement in 1775, aged 66 years. All three were children of Abel Collin, to whom we are so much indebted as the founder of the fine sets of Hospitals in the town, and with them the name of Collin, in or near to Nottingham, probably died out.

Respecting Cornelius Launder, the pewterer above mentioned, to whom the Corporation objected, there cannot be much doubt that he shortly afterwards succeeded in his desires, and settled in Nottingham, though of this fact I have not observed any direct reference in the Records, but in 1635 his son Cornelius Launder was baptised at St. Peter's Church, and buried there in 1680. Another son went to Alfreton, and Bemrose, in his "Reliquary," mentions a Token which he issued there.

His son Cornelius was buried at St. Peter's Church, Nottingham, in 1725, leaving a son, Cornelius Launder, who was born in 1720, and it is of him specially from his position, and as one of the last of that name, that I wish to write. In Willoughby's Directory, on p. 20, the names of two Launders are entered, and I have thought that the last was nephew of the first. They are, Cornelius Launder, Esq., St. James-lane (now street), and Rev. — Launder, Blowbladder-street (Old Market-street, or going out of Weekday-cross to Fletcher-gate).

In 1766 Cornelius Launder married Mary, only daughter of Langford Collin, Esq., of Elton. Nine years later—1775—her uncle, John Collin, of High-pavement, died and left her most or all of his large property. In the same year Cornelius Launder was High Sheriff of the county. In March, of that year, he gave a grand entertainment to a large party at his mansion in St. James-lane, and afterwards, accompanied by javelin men, &c., &c., with trumpeters in advance, and displaying his armorial bearings, proceeded to meet the Judge when coming into the town. I have here given a brief account of persons whose ancestors obtained admission into Nottingham most cer-

tainly against the wish of the Corporation, but who, by carefulness, rose to an excellent position in society.

As showing the difference in estimation by the Corporation as regards the Launderers, between the year 1629, when the Council would not make Cornelius Launder a Burgess as wished, and 1788, I will give a short extract from the Date Book:—"1788: July 17.—The Mayor and Corporation dined at Thurland Hall in a sumptuous manner with Lord Middleton, John Sherwin Esq., Thomas Plumbe, Esq., Cornelius Launder Esq., Francis Gawthorn, Esq., and many other gentlemen of influence and station." My predisposition is quite in favour of the Collin family; for they were fortunately not only wealthy, but generously disposed. The last Cornelius Launder was an opulent man, but I have seen no record of his having devoted any portion of his riches to benefit his native town or the poor. He was a Deputy-Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire.

Continuing my extracts of names from the old Directory, the next is Mrs. Parkyns, Bridlesmith-gate. From the style of spelling, it is probable that she was connected with the Parkyns, of Bunny. Benjamin Ping, a "Calender-man," Rose-yard. This is another business of which little or nothing is heard in recent years. John Place, Saddler, Hen-cross (now Poultry). I recollect someone of that name, who was a saddler, on Beastmarket-hill, just below the Bank. Numerous persons are still left who will remember his son, Mr. John Place, now deceased, who was formerly, and for many years, connected with the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Banking Company, in Thurland-street. Forty years since he had a brother who was an architect in the town.

John Risdale, Baker, Hounds-gate. I remember someone of the name and trade in that part 65 years since, and there was, and perhaps is now, a Risdale's-yard in Hounds-gate. Wm. Rowbotham, Victualler, Flying Horse, Hen-cross, "Travellers' Inn." This is interestingly quaint in the description of the house and its location, and proves that during last century

but one, provision was made for visitors to pass the night at that old inn. I have not noticed an instance in the town, A.D. 1799, when such a place was termed an "Hotel." They were all "Inns."

In 1799 the Rt. Hon. Lady Santry was a resident in Mary-gate, though I am unaware of the exact spot. James Severn, Wine and "Liquor" Merchant, Middle-pavement. When passing that part quite recently I found that someone of that name was still following the same business in Middle-pavement; therefore, it has been carried on there in or during "the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries," of which we have a public record. Edward Skipwith, Grocer, Long-row, and William Skipwith, Stationer, Long-row. This is an old name in the part, though not a continuation of the same vocation. It was known in the locality until about five or six years since, from a liquor business being carried on at the south-west corner of King-street, on Long-row, and upon the site of which a massive block of buildings has recently been constructed.

John Sherwin, Pilcher-gate; Mrs. Sherwin, Stoney-street. This is a noted old name in Nottingham. It is mentioned in the Records, Vol. 4, p. 183, 1579, where there is a peculiar item in the Chamberlain's account, which fully proves (as stated before) how decided the disposition of the Corporation was in olden times for a good and cheap feast or drinking bout. It is as follows:—"In wine gevyn IIII. gallons by Maister Mere (Mayor: William Scott) at the maryadg of Nycholas Shyrwyn, 6s. 8d." At that date the amount would be equivalent to about £4 in these times.

These drinking bouts were at that period not uncommon; for the next item previous has reference to a case exactly similar, "At the maryadg of Robert Alvyne," when the Corporation wastefully expended 9s. 4d. of the town's money on themselves and friends. From the Sherwins, Nottingham has obtained five Mayors, and six or seven Sheriffs. I have previously mentioned, I believe, that their Nottingham house was at the north-east corner of

Pilcher-gate. It was formerly enclosed on the front with an iron fence, but it has been taken away to increase the width of the street, and other changes made to it in my recollection.

Amongst the cases reported at the town Sessions in July, 1573, is the following:—
 "Whe present Nycolas Sherwin wyffe, taner (tanner), for byin a (of) butter, and makein hyt new a gayne, and selles hyt a gayne." That is she made the butter up again, and resold it. I believe that the John Sherwin residing at the old family house in Pilcher-gate, A.D. 1799, was one of the last of that name to live in it.

Hardy, William, Victualler (May Pole), May-pole-yard. It is interesting to note that someone with the old name was the proprietor of that house 105 years since. Smith, Samuel, Esq., M.P., Banker, Market-place. From this he almost appears to have lived there. Sollory, John, Plumber, &c., Bridlesmith-gate. We have still, I believe, someone of that name and trade carrying on business in Mount-street.

Sutton, Charles, Printer, &c., Bridlesmith-gate. He commenced the "Nottingham Review" in 1808. Seven or eight years after (1815) the Attorney-General, ex-officio, filed a criminal information against him for what he was pleased to call a "libel," but, judged by our latter-day ideas, it was absolutely free from and untainted with any libel whatever. It was a keen and deserved satire on the Government of the time and nothing more. Legally speaking, if printed to-day it would undoubtedly pass without notice except to raise a smile at the wit displayed.

During the discussion on the fiscal question which commenced several months since, as well as on numerous other occasions, there must have been in the comic and other papers hundreds of such "libels," which the people enjoy and laugh at, but in 1815 it was treading upon "holy ground" to presume either directly or indirectly to criticise the Government. Mr. Charles Sutton was an ill-used man, with ideas about half a century in advance of his time.

If it was possible for such a case as his to now reach one of our higher law courts it would certainly be dismissed, but practically laughed out of Court, and those making the charge would probably be saddled with the costs. This, however, was not the case with Mr. Sutton, who was far more "sinned against than sinning." He was tried, and the jury brought in a verdict against him. He appealed, but who in those days could struggle successfully with the Government? The case was brought forward again at the Court of King's Bench, London, and Mr. Justice Le Blanc, after a long harangue, ordered that he should be imprisoned in Northampton Gaol for twelve months, and after that time give security for "good behaviour" for three years, himself in £500 and two satisfactory securities for £250 each. Mr. Sutton was confined in the debtor's ward. He was set at liberty on February 8, 1817.

Tatham, Thomas, grocer, Middle-pavement. Full sixty years since I remember a Tatham who was still a grocer there. The shop they occupied is now in possession of the Globe Parcel and Express Company. There was also a grocer's shop on the opposite side of the street occupied by Mr. Baker, but rather nearer to Weekday-cross. It is now a refreshment house. At that time, in Weekday-cross and Middle-pavement, there was a druggist's, a pawn-broker's, and various other trades being carried on, with few or no warehouses, but many residences.

In the former series I have noticed a Mr. Tollington, whom I remember more than sixty years since as a grocer on Long-row, almost opposite to Bromley House. There were, I believe, two of that name, but it is the eldest to whom I now wish to refer, for in his way he was a very notable person. I retain in memory a few who wore pigtails, and it is probable that he was the last person in Nottingham having such an appendage. In Willoughby's Directory (1799), I find Tollinton, Thomas, grocer and flaxdresser, Long-row. Dearden, in his Directory of 1834, mentions someone of the same name on Long-row, but at that date he is a

grocer only ; the flaxdressing perhaps being discontinued.

He was then advanced in years, and most assuredly the same person as the Tollinton mentioned in 1799. Messrs. W. Calvert and Co., grocers, now occupy the site of the premises once in the possession of Mr. Tollinton, but the buildings have been so greatly transformed and enlarged that their previous owner—was it possible he could see them—would not recognise them.

Sparrow, James, Painter, Long-row. Until little more than fifty years since someone of that name and trade could have been found there. Many are still left who will remember them. It was one of the last houses westward on Long-row, and next to "The George and Dragon." When walking down Chapel-bar, it was the first house on the left hand of which the upper part of the front rested on stone pillars. For about half a century Messrs. Sparrow have carried on business in Park-row.

Stoney, Benjamin, Weekday-cross. I remember Stoney and Clarke, Joiners, &c., of Weekday-cross. Their premises were near to the eastern end of the old Town Hall. Turner, Thomas, Framesmith, Toll House-hill. The old house, or rather two old houses, are still there, but the workshops have long since disappeared. I have a full remembrance of three persons who were of that name, one being the father of the late Mr. Thomas Turner, formerly proprietor of "The Black Boy" Hotel, Long-row, who would probably be a nephew of the other two. Since the erection, about 1820, of the bottom property on Toll House-hill, the old houses of the Turners have been considered to be in Toll-street.

OLD NOTTINGHAM.

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XIX.

In this article, with various other matters, I propose to give a short account of several old inhabitants of Nottingham, and also copies of handbills or announcements circulated the century before last, by them or others, and to commence with the one first issued.

Judged by our modern notions, it is a curious and interesting document, and rendered still more so by its wording and style. It is six inches long and barely three and three-quarter inches wide, with the lines running lengthwise. It was a business announcement by Mr. Joseph Heath, once of Timberhill (South-parade), in the Market-place, Nottingham. There is evidence, I believe, that he was in business there nearly one hundred and fifty years since. He was a bookseller, &c., and during a portion of his life a member of the Senior Council of the Town. This, of course, was in connection with the old and unreformed Corporation. He obtained an independency and parted with his business to Mr. Wilson.

Some years after that took place, he attended a Watch-night service on the last evening of 1788, and directly on returning to his house, complained to Mrs. Heath (who was unwell and confined to her chamber) that he had much pain in his breast. He was sitting in a chair, and immediately fell down, when, notwithstanding the assistance given, he died within an hour. There cannot, I think, be much doubt that the old relic described must date back from 130 to 140 years, for it is 115 years since Mr. Heath died, and some years previously he had retired from business. At the time of his death he was in his 61st year.

The following is a copy of the rarity:—"To be sold by way of Auction, this present evening—to begin at six o'clock. A large collection of Books, in several faculties: as History,

Divinity, Mathematics &c.—Likewise New and Second-hand Bibles and Common Prayers, and all sorts of School-Books, Shop-Books, Pocket-Books, Maps and Pictures, &c. . . . to continue Nights. N.B. Attendance will be given from Morning till Night.—The full value given for any Library or Parcel of Books. Gentlemen's Libraries valued, and proper attendance given on very reasonable rates. Likewise Gentlemen's Libraries Gilt, or lettered at their own houses on very reasonable rates, by Joseph Heath, Bookseller, Binder, and Stationer, next door to the 'Boot and Shoe' in the Market-place, Nottingham."

With a year or two of Mr. Joseph Heath's death his affairs appear to have got into Chancery, and by an order therefrom five lots of freehold property were offered for sale, respecting which an announcement was made as follows: "In Chancery.—A particular of several Freehold Estates (lots) late (the property) of Joseph Heath, deceased, situate in Nottingham, which are to be sold by Public Auction, pursuant to an Order of the High Court of Chancery, at the house of Mr. Edinborough (victualler, Punch Bowl) in the New Change, in the Town of Nottingham, by Mr. John Heath (the person appointed by the said Court to sell the same), on the 29 day of May, 1793, between the hours of eleven and twelve in the forenoon in five lots."

There were first three lots of property in Hounds-gate for sale, each consisting of a house and garden. The fourth lot was the house in St. James's-lane (now street), in which Mr. Heath had formerly lived. The next lot, and last, is thus described, "A Freehold Messuage or Tenement, with offices and other outhouses, situate on Timber-hill, Market-place, in Nottingham, let to William Wilson, bookseller, on a lease, whereof seven years are unexpired, at the yearly rent of £30, subject to a dower of a lady aged 54 years."

Mr. Jonathan Dunn the elder, who probably died about forty-five years since, was the successor of Mr. William Wilson as a bookseller and printer, having purchased the business from the executors. It is shown by

various circumstances that this must have occurred within a short time of the sale, and probably Mr. Dunn became the owner of the property about the same date. It is interesting to read respecting the amount of rent paid in that central part of the Market one hundred and ten years since, being £30 per annum, for, when compared with recent times, it is a mere percentage of what would be demanded and gladly paid.

While considering the amount of rent in 1793 a few important points must not be overlooked, for £30 at that date would—as compared with money in these days—be equivalent to no less than three times that sum, but probably to about £100. In Article XI. I make some observations respecting the wages of working men as a standard of value, and I think proving as regards the comparative worth or purchasing power of money, that these statements are correct. It must also be remembered that in 1793 the building was completely in the old style of James I., with low rooms, and where a tall man with a walking-stick would almost be able to tap at the first chamber windows from the street.

Bonnington in his fine view of the Market-place as it appeared about a century since, gives an excellent notion of these old and interesting premises, with the gables and high-pitched roofs. I am fortunate in possessing a very good old engraving of the house and shop, taken of them as they appeared in the year 1740. I have given an account of it in the Twelfth Article, but I may further say that the shop windows at the top are shown to be but a trifle higher than the shop door. The bottom of the windows, comparing them with the height of persons looking in them, were between three and four feet above the ground.

These windows were but three small squares, or not more than four feet in height, and similar in the first chamber, but in the second chamber there were three smaller squares high. Altogether it is a quaint and interesting picture of the old place, but a great contrast to what is now upon that site. Bonnington shows it to

have been the lowest on Timber-hill (South-parade), or near it, except perhaps the old part of the Flying Horse Inn.

After pulling the old building down, however, in 1817, Mr. Dunn erected the highest premises in the Market-place at that time, for, in place of three low storeys, it had five much higher ones; and I have little hesitation in asserting that the new shops are more than double the height of the old structure. Of late years a number of other places of business have been built in the Market-place, which exceed in height those erected by Mr. Dunn, though probably none of these are more than five storeys, as regards the main building.

I will also bring under notice what is for such a purpose a small bill—12½ in. by 8½ in.—respecting the sale of other property in 1808, and on “The South Side” (of the Market, Timber-hill). In the largest type used, it is termed a dwelling-house, and shops are not mentioned except in small type; this is certainly strange to us in recent times, for practically all in that part are now connected with business.

The bill begins: “Market-place, Nottingham, Freehold Dwelling-house (with possession in a month), situate in Nottingham Market-place, to be sold by auction by Mr. E. B. Robinson, at the house of Mr. Crane, Exchange, Nottingham, on Tuesday, the 8th day of March, 1808, at three o'clock in the afternoon, subject to such conditions as will be then and there produced: A desirable Freehold Messuage or Dwelling-house, advantageously situate for any business, on the South side, and in the most central part of Nottingham Market-place, comprising two shops, with a frontage of 30 feet, a parlour behind the same, several good lodging-rooms, good warehouses under the shops; rock cellars, large cistern, and an entire yard, in which is a printing office, and other outhouses; the whole in the occupation of Mr. Dunn, bookseller, who is removing from the premises. Further particulars may be known on applying to Messrs. Middlemore and Percy, solicitors, and to the auctioneer, in the Poultry. Part of the purchase money may remain on

security of the premises."

Mr. Dunn appears probably to have occupied that portion of the premises which was in the back yard in connection with his printing business. Willoughby, in 1799, respecting Mr. Middlemore, enters the firm at that earlier date as "Evans and Middlemore, attornies, Angel-row."

I have still another handbill dating back to the century before last. From the samples which have come down to us of more than a century since, we may rest assured that our ancestors were not ambitious, nor inclined to use or waste much paper on posters or handbills, for at that time it was almost sure to be taxed. The one I am proposing to introduce to the notice of my readers is also of very humble proportions, being barely six inches long or wide and four inches deep. It was issued in 1796 by Abraham Booth.

In my young days I have frequently spoken with people who knew him well. He died in 1801. The bill is as follows:—"Booth, shoemaker, begs to inform his friends and the public in general that he has opened his shoe warehouse, next door to the Cross Keys in St. Mary-gate, Nottingham, where he can sell men's good strong wax-leather shoes at 6s. per pair; women's leather slippers *ld.*, 3s. 9d.; ditto Spanish, 4s. 9d., and all others at a price in proportion."

In Willoughby's Directory (1799), p. 5, I find: "Booth, Abraham; boot and shoemaker, Hen-cross (Poultry)." He had, therefore, after a short stay in St. Mary's-gate, removed to more central and businesslike premises. He was a nephew of the Rev. Abraham Booth (once of Annesley), who was author of "The Reign of Grace," which went through several editions, as well as various other works.

There is still another matter relating to Mr. Booth which will doubtless be interesting to many in the city even in recent times, and has influenced me in mentioning his name; it is respecting an assurance which I had from several of his old acquaintances that he was the first person in Nottingham to keep a stock of ready-made boots and shoes for sale in his shop.

I now wish to make a few remarks regarding his elder brother, Robert Booth. In Willoughby's Directory, on page 5, there is an entry of "Booth, Robert, (manufacturing) hosier, Plumptre-place." As stated before, the date of the directory is 1799, but I have observed no reference to Plumptre-street in it; therefore, as remarked in a recent article, I conclude that the thoroughfare of that name was not complete in that year from Stoney-street to Bellar-gate. Mr. Robert Booth died there sixty years since (1844). I knew him well, and at intervals conversed with him as a youth.

Recently when passing the top of Plumptre-street I looked at his old house, now much altered, the front doorway being bricked up, and what was once a back or alternative road into the house is now the only one, and close to the lower end of the premises. These, when going down Plumptre-street about 60 yards, are on the right hand side, and three storeys high. In old times they looked proportionate, but the new and much larger buildings near have by comparison considerably altered that.

On the opposite side of the street to the house, and rather nearer to Stoney-street, there is, as compared generally with others, a very old warehouse, which, as having been "built" for that purpose, and not being another building "altered" for a warehouse, causes it, I have often thought, to be unique in Nottingham. If there is another as old as it, and worthy of the name, which also was built for a warehouse, I certainly have no knowledge of it. When first erected (before 1799) it would undoubtedly be considered a large building, but if compared with some of the modern structures, and even with the one adjoining, but nearer to Stoney-street, it is dwarfed by comparison.

These were the business premises of Mr. Robert Booth. He retired from business about 1808 or 1810, for at an election in 1806 he is described as a hosier, but in 1812 as "gentleman." There is no doubt that these statements are correct, for in 1809 he was one of the churchwardens of St. Mary's, and that fact I consider to a great extent proves that he had then withdrawn from the cares of business.

In 1799 Mr. John Wright, banker, resided on Low-pavement, and Smith Wright is recorded as living on Swine Green (Carlton-street). At the same time there were two other gentlemen having similar names residing in the town, namely:—Thomas Wright, surgeon, Bridlesmith-gate, and John Wright, surgeon, Fletcher-gate. I have thought it probable that they were ancestors or other relatives of the Wright, William, surgeon, Pelham-street, or the Wright, John, surgeon, High-pavement, of fifty years since or possibly rather more.

There are some cases in which the little old directory of Willoughby's is eminently useful, for, although it may only be inferential, he occasionally gives information which is of much value and thoroughly reliable. Respecting Coalpit-lane, Deering, in his map (1750), shows that in his day it was continued up to the lower end of Broad-lane, now Broad-street; and Willoughby, when mentioning Bilby's Hospital, states that it is in Coalpit-lane, which proves that in 1799 that roadway, as regards its name was the same until after the century ended as it was with Deering, and that what we now term St. John's-street was at both those dates the upper end of Coalpit-lane.

The inn we now know as the Flying Horse "Hotel" is by Willoughby termed "The Travellers' Inn." During his time the part where Collin's Hospital is situated was still called Friar-lane; for the thoroughly unnecessary addition of Park-street and interchange of titles had not then been thought of.

There is one person whose name, with his various vocations, should be mentioned, which are recorded by Willoughby in 1799; for, when judged by our modern notions, there is something peculiar. It is:—"John Gaskill, general appraiser and auctioneer, Middle-pavement. Also a Commissioner to take Special Bails, in the King's Bench, and Court of Common Pleas, for the Counties of Nottingham, York, Derby, Lincoln, and Leicester; by Warrants from the Lord Chief Justice bearing date the 12th May, 1795."

In 1799 there were only two Banks in the town, namely, Samuel Smith and Co., Market-

place, and Messrs. John and Ichabod Wright and Co., Swine-green. The Bank of Messrs. Fellows, Mellers, and Hart was established nine or ten years afterwards. At this period there were four silversmith, jewellers, outlers, &c., in Nottingham, and all carried on business in or close to the Market-place.

The mode of entry is rather peculiar, judged by present-day notions. They were "Homer, Mrs., Smithy-row; Lingford, John, Market-place; Orme and Hulse, Long-row; Wright, James, Market-place." On an occasion or two previously in past times I have noticed that matters connected with the south side of the Market (Timber-hill or Beastmarket-hill, or Angel-row) were notified frequently as being in the "Market-place."

OLD NOTTINGHAM.

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XX.

I propose in this communication to bring under notice various matters relating to St. Mary's Churchyard, together with different thoroughfares in its immediate neighbourhood; the changes in the level of a portion of the ground; the making of new avenues or ways; and including some allusion to a few notable residences, &c., near.

In Article XLV. an extract from Vol. V. p. 152 of the Borough Records is given respecting "Stoopes (posts) and Rayles, to The Hollowston," &c., where there is much vagueness in the entry, but, as then stated, I propose shortly to suggest a place or places where they could probably have been fixed. In relation to these subjects I shall make much use of the large and very fine engraving referred to previously and representing that part, dating back approximately 220 years, which I am glad to own; and specially from the fact that it throws light upon some doubtful points connected with history and may possibly suggest or determine what previously many were unacquainted with.

This rare representation of that locality was issued from sixty to sixty-five years previous to the publication in 1751 of Deering's "History of Nottingham," and in that time there is proof of a very considerable change having taken place near to the Church or churchyard of St. Mary. At the southern end of Stoney-street (as it is now) from Broadway to the top of Hollowstone and Short-hill, together with High-pavement, there is a considerable descent, which about one hundred and fifty or sixty years since was entitled St. Mary's-hill, but that name has for many years become obsolete. In connection with this part the large old engraving gives a thoroughly different idea.

The street is there exhibited in what I think might be termed its natural level, and that is on a perfect equality with the churchyard for its

whole width on the western side of the roadway, and the other ground adjoining, which at that period on the eastern side was entirely clear of buildings, from Hollowstone to Plumptre-place, as now termed, and between Stoney-street and until Bellar-gate (on its western side) was reached. In mentioning Plumptre-place it is merely as a landmark in present times, for it is probably little more than, if as much as, a century ago since it was formed, which is only about half the time of what is under consideration. I believe it to have received that title after Plumptre-street was taken quite through to Bellar-gate, for reasons previously given.

The large open and unbuilt upon piece of land just mentioned is shown to be under cultivation, and there are a few trees on the side next Stoney-street. At that date (about 1685-90) there was no building whatever on the northern side of Hollowstone, commencing from the top until the western side of Bellar-gate was reached. When walking from the southern end of Stoney-street northwards full two hundred years since the first habitations to the right were what appear to be two cottages or two little blocks of buildings, which may perhaps have consisted of two cottages each, for the trees shown on the engraving cause this point to be uncertain from their screening a large portion of them. Each appear to have a good-sized garden at the back, on which some trees are growing. There is no cause for doubting that the rooms in the cottages must have been low, as was the case in nearly all houses of that date.

The next building is the town mansion of the Pierrepont family, with whom the Duke of Kingston was once connected, and the head of which at the present time is Earl Manvers. It was an imposing structure, three storeys in height and occupying the site on which Messrs. Heymann and Alexander's warehouse now stands. It commenced where Plumptre-place now is, and on its northern side, I think it would reach to within about twenty yards of Barker-gate. The ground on the eastern side of the premises (or at the back from the street)

was laid out in an elaborate and attractive manner, extending to a very short distance of Bellar-gate. At this date (about 1690) a portion of the ground in Stoney-street facing this residence was entirely clear of buildings and formed an excellent "vista" to the house, on the side of which and next to the street there was a row of fine trees.

I think it is most probable that at one period the ground in the part referred to as belonging to the Pierreponts extended to Barker-gate, and to a great degree I consider this is proved to be correct by what occurred A.D. 1677, May 25th, respecting the schoolhouse (afterwards next to the house of the Pierreponts) when we are told in *The Records*, Vol V. p. 320:—"It is this day ordered that Master Joseph Clay, Master Gervas Wyld, and Samuel Richards, together with the school-wardens, shall view the Free-schoole house in order to ye pulling down the west end."

On the 3rd of the following July there is evidence that something had occurred respecting the schoolhouse (in Stoney-street), for at a meeting on that day the following resolution was agreed to:—"It is this day ordered by the Councell yat the Major (Mayor) for the tyme beinge., Master Alderman Greaves, Master Alderman Edge, Master John Greaves, and Master Samuel Richards be employed to treat with Roberte Pierrepont, Esquire, about the exchange of the Free-schoole."

The modern building (all or in part) in Stoney-street, which was previously used for the Free Grammar School, is still standing, though it was no doubt erected subsequently to 1677. It is, I believe, the next edifice on the north side of Messrs. Heymann and Alexander's warehouse, which as arranged a few years since was set back three or four yards to widen the road. The old schoolhouse and other premises reaching to Barker-gate now project further into the street, but when this part is brought into line a great improvement will be accomplished.

The large old engraving was brought out or published before the noted old residence, Plumptre House, was arranged for or built; and there is a moderate-sized house on that

spot, with its east end abutting upon Stoney-street, and the south side close to and forming part of the boundary of the churchyard. It is a two-storey erection of the ordinary kind, and lower on the north than the south side. It has a considerable quantity of land (for a town) attached to it, on the north, which appears to have been attended to with some care.

Respecting the south end of Stoney-street it will probably be a surprise to many when told that it appears somewhat more than two centuries since to have terminated abruptly, and at the same elevation above High-pavement, or the top of Hollowstone, as St. Mary's churchyard in that part, for both are shown to be quite level. There was no large flight of stone steps at that period into the churchyard at its south-east corner from the Pavement, though there was a way by which persons could ascend to Stoney-street, but certainly not available for vehicles.

At the date referred to, and possibly at this time, the width between the south-east corner of St. Mary's churchyard and the houses on the opposite side of High-pavement appears to be six or eight feet more than it is near the middle of the graveyard on that side, or when about sixty yards nearer to Weekday-cross. The cliffy end of Stoney-street projected a number of feet beyond the southern wall of the churchyard (probably six or seven) on the side of the street nearest to the church, and from that part an inclined plane is shown close to the wall of the churchyard, by which anyone could ascend from, or descend to the Pavement.

The north side of Hollowstone and the south end of Stoney-street are shown to be level with each other in height, &c. Respecting the "Stoopes (posts) and Rayles" referred to above I think it will be observed that such things would be very needful close to the top of Hollowstone either for protection from the sudden ending of Stoney-street or at the side of the inclined plane mentioned. During the last 160 years, according to old maps, &c., a considerable change has been made in more ways than one as regards St. Mary's churchyard.

In 1743 and later there was a row of houses,

the backs of which abutted upon the churchyard on its southern side for nearly half its length, commencing at the bottom of Marygate, and at the end of the houses, and nearly opposite to what is the road to Long Stairs and Malin-hill, was a flight of steps in a recess to get into the churchyard, when those ascending them went eastward, or towards Hollowstone. Respecting the houses and steps, from all that can be gathered, it may, I think, be relied upon that when they were removed advantage was taken of the occasion to widen the roadway. At that period there was a gateway to the church, a little distance up St. Mary's-gate, as it could not then be at the corner from its being occupied by a house. On the east and west side of the churchyard a row of good-sized trees are shown.

I now wish to take into consideration the passage which of late has been entitled "Kaye's-walk." There is ample proof I consider that as contrasted with many other streets, &c., this is not only a comparatively new thoroughfare, but a much newer name, for I have not been able to find it recorded in the various old directories coming down to 1834. We had formerly a St. Peter's Church-side, and we have St. Peter's Church-walk and St. Nicholas' Church-walk still, as I believe, in use. I have no doubt whatever that this footroad in my time has been altered from St. Mary's Church-side or walk to Kaye's-walk.

At present, from what may be gathered, the probabilities certainly appear to favour the idea that the road through, or as separated from the churchyard, was not formed until some time in the first quarter of last century. An old lady aged 86 has assured me that she remembers a step or two at the Stoney-street end of the walk, which would in that part make it level with the churchyard. Deering, in his map, shows that there was no such "walk" in his time, and in the large old official map of the town (1829) though a walk or pathway is shown it is not called "Kaye's-walk."

I have carefully looked in White's Directory of 1832 and Dearden's of 1834, but I cannot find any reference to Kaye's-walk in either

work, though in "Blackner's Nottingham," 1815, I have found St. Mary's Church Side; recorded (p. 71) amongst the names of the principal streets, roads, lanes &c. of the town, and therefore it may be definitely concluded that the title "Kaye's-walk" has been applied within the time and memory of many of us who are still living, and continue to be inhabitants of the city.

At intervals in the Borough Records, going back for the greater part of four centuries, remarks are made on various occasions respecting the "stiles," of which in old times St. Mary's, St. Peter's, and St. Nicholas' had each one. On a former occasion I mentioned an old engraving on which Pennyfoot Stile is shown, but I now wish to remark that on the large and fine old engraving referred to above, the St. Mary's Church Stile is brought very prominently under view at the north-east corner of the churchyard, which is, of course, in Stoney-street; but whoever climbed over the stile would then be in the churchyard and on a footpath crossing it to Mary-gate, for no portion whatever had at that date (about 1690) been taken from it to form a separate footway, or road, nor probably for about 130 years later.

The stile is close to that side of the churchyard, and within about two yards southward of it some gates are shown which could be used at service time. There is an ordinary field hedge to the ground in Stoney-street opposite to the churchyard. In Vol. 3, p. 473 of the Borough Records, Kaye's-walk is introduced to our notice, and we are told to "compare" it with something on p. 259, and line 32 is mentioned in connection with it. On turning to that part it will be found that it is regarding the year 1486, and the item referred to says "paid ye 25 day of Janyver for clensyng of the lane be Seint Mary Kyrk yerd 8d."

As a fact there is really nothing satisfactory to which reference or comparison can be made on that page respecting Kaye's-walk. From circumstances of this sort occurring I am compelled to believe that I have far better opportunities, generally speaking, of arriving at a correct conclusion than those unfortunately

possessed by the editors of the Borough Records, though an examination of Deering's map would have shown them that there was no separate footway whatever against the churchyard in his time at the place alluded to, which is more than 260 years later than the date mentioned (1486).

On continuing the reference to pages 259-60 it will be found that the extract is in relation to much work carried out about that time, and at the same place in repairs to the roadway, when 51 "lodes" of sand and 29 "lodes of bulders" (boulders) were used, though I think there may perhaps be another matter which possibly escaped observation by the editor, for of the eleven items in the account in reference to the roadway it is on four occasions called a "gate" and on seven occasions a "lane."

On page 488 in the same volume the editor tells us, and, as I believe, very truly, that "a gate" is "a street, way." That is regarding the frequent use of that word in olden times. These comparisons are, I think, conclusive, that the lane or gate referred to one of the three thoroughfares bounding the churchyard on the south, the east, or the west, but it certainly was not "Kaye's-walk," as that name was not used until my time, according to the directories, &c.; nor was it even the portion of the old churchyard now known by that name, for we have full evidence that many people were afterwards buried there from the fact that a number of memorials to the dead are yet remaining in the passage, now having the comparatively recent name of Kaye's-walk.

Many of those living in the city must have observed the gravestones in this avenue, which are placed against the outside of the wall enclosing the churchyard; there are, I think, eight or ten of them. It is evident that some have been subjected to a considerable amount of violence from their very imperfect condition, which is much to be deprecated. It would have been satisfactory if possible and without much trouble, to have been enabled to copy the inscriptions thereon, though for present purposes I am chiefly interested in the dates.

I have little doubt that these headstones would be of the ordinary height, but at present I believe them to be only about 30 inches, or perhaps two-thirds of what is usual, out of the ground, and that most or all of them have been sunk considerably deeper than ordinary, which has probably caused some of the latest inscriptions to be invisible, though this might be necessitated by their being fixed against a low wall. Of the dates perceptible on the upper parts of the stones, I have found 1780, 1786, 1787, and 1789, but if all the later inscriptions on the lower parts of the stones could be deciphered I have a decided conviction that other dates would be found recording deaths to the end of that century, and very probably after the year 1800.

There cannot be any cause for doubting that these headstones when first fixed were in the churchyard, and that when the old stile was removed against Stoney-street or the wall built and the thoroughfare formed, which in 1815 and for a considerable time after was entitled "St. Mary's Church-side," they were placed in their present position.

In mentioning stones to graves, it must not be forgotten that there are usually a great many more graves which would have no memorials to the dead connected with them as compared with those which have, and the remains of these as well as of the others, are still lying under Kaye's-walk, and being continually passed over. In addition to the gravestones referred to, there are two large mural tablets affixed to the buildings on the opposite side of the pathway.

OLD NOTTINGHAM

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE. &c

XXI.

In this article I wish to bring under notice and give a brief account of an old family belonging to Nottingham, respecting whom, according to the Borough Records, there is evidence that someone of that name held the office of Sheriff at the early date of 1527-28; though it will probably be found that my remarks will apply fully as much to their residences as to the persons concerned.

I shall now refer to the Gregorys. The earliest of them to be entered in the Borough Records is Thomas Gregory. We are told that they came from Lancashire about four hundred years since. In the early part of their career in this locality they are stated to have been butchers, but there is evidence that they must have been keen business-men during several generations or their advancement could not have been so pronounced.

In old times, and until 1835, when most municipalities were reformed, according to the Charter of Henry VI., the Mayor of Nottingham must be chosen from amongst the seven Aldermen who also were magistrates. I have seen it stated that Thomas Gregory was an Alderman, but there does not appear to be any record of his having held office as Mayor. In 1548-49 John Gregory was one of the Chamberlains, and in 1561-62 he was chosen as Mayor, but Richard Walch and James Rawlynson, the two Sheriffs, were each butchers. At varying intervals he occupied the post of Mayor three times afterwards, the last occasion being in 1586-87. According to the Records for 1596-97 he died the preceding year, being one of the Aldermen.

In 1597-98 William Gregory is entered as Mayor's Clerk—that is, Town Clerk—in place of Nicholas Plumptre, and he appears to have held that office for twenty years. It is probable that he was the son of John Gregory. In 1601-1602, Marmaduke Gregory, a tanner,

was one of the Sheriffs. In February, 1617, he was elected Alderman in place of William Freeman, deceased. I should have said that in 1613-14 William Gregory, butcher, was elected one of the Chamberlains, but refused to serve, though in 1616-17 he accepted the office. In 1617-18 Marmaduke Gregory was one of the Bridge Wardens, and the following year William Gregory was one of the Sheriffs. In 1620-21 Marmaduke Gregory was Mayor.

I have just previously referred to William Gregory, butcher, who in 1613 refused the Chamberlainship, but by whom it was accepted in 1616, and it is probable that of all those bearing the name as previously mentioned and also before 1622, that he alone belongs directly to the family which I specially desire to notice. After examining the excellent pedigree of the Gregorys, which is to be found in J. T. Godfrey's "History of Lenton," I am still more convinced that the others were a collateral branch, or bore no relationship, though, as may be seen, several held high offices in the town; one of them being John Gregory, who was Mayor on four occasions, and another was Marmaduke Gregory, who was Mayor in 1620-21. Deering says that he was also elected Mayor in 1614, though, according to the Records, Richard Parker then occupied that post, and as the editor's opportunities of arriving at the truth were no doubt much superior to Deering's I prefer his version to the latter's.

In 1622-23, William Gregory was one of the School Wardens. In 1627-28 he was selected as an Alderman, and in 1632-33 he was elected Mayor, and also in 1639-40. I find his name as Alderman in 1645-46, but not afterwards, and it is questionable whether any of that family again occupied so prominent an official position in Nottingham.

In looking through the Records it is surprising to find how indifferent many of those in prominent positions were, a few centuries since, to plundering the town to satisfy their own ends. Besides the Gregorys referred to there were afterwards others who did not occupy any official post in the town, and one (possibly

the chief of them) was George Gregory. This is he to whom the large old family mansion belonged which was situated on Swine-green (Carlton-street), close to the top of Gridlesmith-gate (Pelham-street) on its northern side.

It probably came to him through his maternal grandfather, and in a moderate period afterwards he resolved to erect there what he considered a more suitable residence. In the Borough Records, Vol. V., p. 318, August 11th (Tuesday), 1674, there is an entry from the minutes of the Town Council as follows:—
 "Put to the question, whether the Mayor and Burgesses shall suffer Master George Gregory, Esquire, to build and encroach upon the Streete and Towne's Wast in Swyne Green, in Nottingham, without paying an annuall rent or acknowledgment to the Mayor and Burgesses: It is this day ordered that George Gregory, Esquire, shall not build upon the Streete and Towne's Wast, on Swyne Green, without an annuall rent or acknowledgment to the Mayor and Burgesses."

This was no doubt a decided answer to him, though I believe there is nothing afterwards mentioned respecting any arrangement that might be made, and the house was certainly built, but by what may be observed at the present time respecting as I consider the only portion of that old town abode, which, though doubtless modernised in some respects, may still be seen, it appears almost beyond questioning that he succeeded when building, in appropriating a portion of the roadway, otherwise of "Swyne Green."

I have often looked at the spot which I have considered to be an encroachment, and especially about fifty years since, when the top of Pelham-street was the same as in the time of Gridlesmith-gate (1810), and the whole of the available space was needed for one vehicle to pass through it at the upper end, and an addition of a yard would have materially improved the constricted passage.

I am always glad to look at building operations, but especially such as are of historic interest, and sometime about the end of last summer I noticed that considerable changes were

being made to the old part of what was once belonging to Messrs. Wrights' Bank in Carlton-street, and full two centuries since and later the town mansion of the Gregorys. It has been stuccoed over, and I believe in comparatively recent times, rewindowed and corniced.

At various periods as the work progressed of lowering the ground floor and taking out the whole of the front to the first floor I had occasionally opportunities to examine for a few minutes different matters brought to view belonging to the old place. It was decidedly perceptible from the thin bricks, &c., that the structure was an old one, though modernised in outward appearance. A large plate-glass shop front has since been fixed in the opening which was made, and the once square, projecting angle next to Pelham-street is now rounded off by a circular piece of plate-glass being placed there.

In its earlier days I believe it is probable that Thurland Hall once had quite as much, and perhaps, more ground connected with it than any other mansion within the walls of Nottingham, but afterwards, and very likely at the date mentioned (1674) the land attached to the town house of the Gregory family exceeded any other in Nottingham, and it was to this which I referred when considering Butchers Close. In extent it must have numbered some acres, though in a large city or town in these days land is usually measured and sold by square yards or less.

If a line was taken through to Parliament-street from the top of Pelham-street, and running parallel with Broad-street, then according to Deering's and other maps, and also in respect to the land afterwards sold, practically the whole of the ground between that line and Broad-street, and Parliament-street, and Carlton-street appears to have once belonged to that old town residence. Yet the greater the quantity of land attached to the house the less the necessity for encroaching on the street. A yard was a great piece at the very narrow top of old Gridlesmith-gate (now Pelham-street) to add to or diminish it, but a

mere drop in a bucket when compared with the space between Carlton-street and Parliament-street. Under such circumstances the desire to take in a portion of the street appears to be incomprehensible and contemptible.

Going back for more than fifty years, but excepting the last three or four, or since volume 5 of the Borough Records was published, I had frequently looked at the projecting corner belonging to the bank, and wondered why it should be so, where the street was much too contracted already, but all was explained in the last volume by the extract given.

It must be 100 years or more since a commencement was made to sell the land once attached to that old house, judging by the appearance of some of the old buildings upon it. About that period Broad-lane Paddock was constantly mentioned. The site of the old Roman Catholic Chapel in George-street was, I believe, one of the last pieces of land to be sold, and that probably occurred about 1826. The comparatively modern building occupied by Messrs. Bell and Son, Stationers, of Carlton-street, must, according to Deering's map, after some alterations, have been erected in the front of at least a portion of the old mansion. George-street was probably so named after George De Ligne Gregory—1738-1822. There is also Lenton-street, joining George-street with Broad-street, and it most likely received that title in consequence of the Gregorys owning an estate there. A portion of the boulevard is also named after them, as it passes through or near to their possessions in that part.

In olden times the burgesses of Nottingham, even for considerable distances outside of the town boundaries, possessed by Charter valuable privileges, being in numerous instances freed from toll and other charges themselves, but in various cases having the power to impose payments upon others. The first Charter is dated 1155, the second 1165, and the third, by King John, 1189. One of the items in the latter respecting the burgesses frees them of toll, &c., "from Thrumpton to Newark, and of all things passing the Trent, as fully as in the borough of Nottingham, and on the other side from the

brook beyond Rempston to the water of Retford in the north; . . . and from Bycarrdyke."

Also "the men of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire ought to come to the borough of Nottingham on Friday and Saturday with their wains (wagons) and pack-horses." No one was to work dyed cloths within ten leucæ of Nottingham (1,500 paces each). The passage of the Trent was to be free for one perch on each side of the mid-stream. Another item in reference to the burgesses says:—"And that they shall be quit of (free from) Thelonia (toll) throughout the whole of our land, within and without fairs." There was afterwards a most useful clause: that none of the rights of the burgesses shall be lost through not being used.

By the Charter of Edward II., 1314, they were freed from "Murage," tha is an assessment for fortifications, also from lastage, or a charge for permission to carry goods from place to place. This is much like permitting them to hawk goods, without payment for a licence. In conclusion, it says that this is to be "throughout our whole Kingdom and our whole dominion for ever." In 1330 the right of having a gaol was confirmed to the town, and also of a Saturday market, by Edward III.

In 1448 the Borough was erected into a County, and the Burgesses first elected two Sheriffs in place of two Bailiffs. (Charter Henry VI.) They held County Courts monthly. These are some of the privileges conferred on the town, and for the times mentioned they were most important ones. The Charters gave the Mayor and Burgesses extensive powers over some other places, and two were Newark and Retford. On various occasions there was trouble respecting the toll which was exacted by Nottingham from each town, and I am quite willing to believe that, had it been Nottingham which was called upon for payments of that sort, it would have been most unwillingly complied with.

In the Records we have particulars respecting the letting of the Tolls on the Trent to Retford by Nottingham in 1228, from the bridge of Kelum (Kelham) as far as Doverbec, where

it falls into the Trent. The men of Retford were to pay ten marks, on two occasions mentioned, during the year, "and one dinner each year to us, and to our successors, according to custom." These dinners from this must have commenced early, whilst the Nottingham men were accustomed to having them in the year 1228.

In 1480 the men of Retford refused to pay, and Nottingham brought an action at law against them, but there was no appearance in Court on the part of Retford; therefore, they were called upon to defray damages, amounting to £40—which would represent about £600 in these days—this with arrears, &c.; the jury found against them for total £91 13s. 4d., which at that period for so small a town was a great sum.

In Volume 3, p. 67, of the Records, it appears that during A.D. 1500 Newark paid to Nottingham £5 and £2 6s. 8d. for tolls taken at Newark Bridge. In the Chamberlain's accounts for 1462 there is an entry of "£16 13s. 4d. for the rent of Retford from tolls there." In A.D. 1601 Nottingham agreed with Newark that they should be (conditionally) allowed to collect toll at Newark Bridge. In 1609 it was agreed that Nottingham should let Newark tolls (at the bridge) for 21 years on payment of £30 at the time, and £8 per year afterwards. These extracts are sufficient to give an idea of Nottingham's position as regards its charters and relations with other places, on or near to the Trent, which was free for traffic to our old town, if not for others.

As somewhat connected with these matters I will now notice the old Priory, and Lenton with its Fair, in relation to Nottingham. For a full, reliable, and interesting "History of the Parish and Priory of Lenton" that of our fellow-citizen, Mr. John T. Godfrey, is strongly recommended, and in various cases it will probably be referred to. The Priory was founded by William Peverel, who, we are told, died in 1113. Therefore it was about forty years after the Conquest.

The history informs us that Henry II., who reigned 1154-1189, granted a fair of eight days

to the monks of Lenton at the Feast of St. Martin. There was also a second fair granted by Charles II. on the Feast of All Saints. Disputes occurred respecting the fairs and their rights between the Mayor and Burgesses of Nottingham and the Prior and Convent of Lenton, but on two occasions or more they managed to come to an arrangement, though in one case Mr. Godfrey in his history says he considers that the Prior obtained an advantage over the Corporation.

In the Charter of King John there is one sentence referring to the Mayor and Burgesses of Nottingham which must have greatly strengthened their case. It is "And that they shall be quit (free) of Tholonea (toll) throughout the whole of our land within and without fairs." This toll may probably be explained by what I can remember in Nottingham, and perhaps others also, in respect to the Market-place; the Burgesses, if not quite free from charges (for formerly some had goods on the ground but no stalls), paid less than others, and they were, I believe, sometimes free; therefore the Burgesses of Nottingham would, according to Charter, in a great degree be as free in other towns as anyone living in them. In the next article I propose to make a few more remarks respecting Lenton, its Fair, &c., &c.

OLD NOTTINGHAM.

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XXII.

I wish to make further reference to Lenton, its fairs (2), to the Gregorys, who for the most part of three centuries have been closely connected with that district, &c. As a parish, close to the town, much more importance from various circumstances, and of necessity, attached in past times to Lenton than any other as regards Nottingham.

The Prior of Lenton was Rector of St. Mary's, Nottingham, taking I believe what are termed the great tithes, and in that position is represented by Earl Manvers as lay rector in more recent times. Respecting the Prior, this was in accordance with the endowment of William Peverel. Godfrey further tells us that in it was also included the Church of St. Peter and the Church of St. Nicholas in Nottingham; therefore, the town was under his ecclesiastical jurisdiction, for at that date there were only three churches, and in the Middle Ages this would undoubtedly include a great amount of influence. As regards the two fairs mentioned, it is chiefly respecting the first, which dates from the twelfth century (Henry II.), that reference will be made, for the second did not commence until about five hundred years later.

The Borough Records, vol. 4, p. 426, in a note tells us: "Greaves notes, that William Gregory, butcher, was sworn a burgesse this year—1600-1. In the Records, vol. 4, p. 320, there is an interesting paragraph respecting him in the minutes of a Council meeting, September 9, 1614, as follows: "William Gregory, butcher, for his fyne for refusing to be Chamberlayne.—Ytt is agreed that William Gregorie, butcher, being fyned on Michelmas Day 'next' (mistake for 'last') at £5, for refusing to be Chamberlayne, that the same fine shalbe reduced to two angeylls, videlicet, 22s., and so to be discharged of ytt, in respect that others; videlicet, Maister Seele, and Maister Hare, was

so dealt with all; which 22s. he hath here payd accordingly. Camerarius (Chamberlain). Rocket had ytt by Maister Hills deliverie."

Alderman Gregory in 1630 (see Godfrey's History of Lenton) "purchased the Manor of Lenton, with its fair, and other privileges." I have more than once seen a statement to the effect that he gave about two thousand six or seven hundred pounds for the manor, &c., though as compared with our present value of money its equivalent would I believe be twenty-five to thirty thousand pounds. Still, I am convinced that his purchase was and has continued to be a remunerative one.

I certainly dislike the idea of any private individual "owning a fair." It should be for the benefit of the whole town or parish, as in Nottingham and other places. According to the Charter for Lenton fair, no goods were to be exposed for sale in Nottingham Market, nor strictly speaking could any goods be exposed for sale in the shops of the town, as it was commanded that during Lenton fair (see Godfrey's Lenton, p. 315) "No man should buy or sell in Nottingham."

From information given in the Records, vol. 4, p. 267, it is certain that the Corporation had for many years before Alderman Gregory's purchase, been endeavouring to release themselves and the town, from the very offensive conditions imposed in the Charter for Lenton Fair. Though since the suppression of the monasteries there had been no Prior or other person to actively interfere with the town on its behalf.

Respecting this matter a most interesting meeting of the Town Council was held, November 2, 1603, and in the minutes we are told: "Touchinge Lenton Fayre.—Ytt ys agreed that no inhabitant within this towne, neyther by himselfe nor by any other, shall go, or carry any wares downe to this Lenton Faire, unlesse yt be to ye horse or best (beast) faire, to buy or sell cattle, on payne to everie one offendinge herein, to be shutt upp, and disfranchised, and to have his offence certefyed to the Councell; neyther any to go thither to buy any London wares, nor deale with any London wares,

directly, or indirectly, att any tyme these 2 monthes."

To prevent intercourse by persons going to the fair, men were stationed at many outlets of the town, and we are further told, "Item, a sufficyent watche to be sett att all convenyent places betwixt this towne and Lenton, namely, att ye Bridge End 4, att ye Castle Gates 2, att Posterne Bridge 1, att Chappell Barr 2, att Sheepe Lane End 1, att Cowlane Barr 1, att ye Malt Milne 2, att Saint Johnes (St. John's) 1, att ye Tyle Howse 2. Fower or two honest men to be assigned to go to Lenton to observe and see yf any inhabitant here offend this order."

The monasteries were dissolved about 1538, and for one hundred and eight years after it is probable that little was done anywhere, by way of carrying out the terms of that Charter of Henry II. respecting Lenton Fair and Nottingham. In 1646, however, Alderman William Gregory, of Nottingham, filed a bill in equity to compel the Corporation to enforce the observance of its conditions, and he threatened various burgesses with legal proceedings if his chartered rights were interfered with.

The burgesses in their turn petitioned the Mayor and Council to protect them, and in vol. 5, p. 244, 1646, November 10, in the minutes of the Common Council we are told, "The burgesses preferred a petition this day to this companye to have libertye to keepe open theire shopps here in town, and markett, this Lenton faire, and to bee protected by the towne, Maister Alderman Gregory, lord of the faire, being present, which petition beeing read, and also the composicion, after the said alderman's departure, hee refusing to stay to hear the same.

"(1) This company conceiveing the said composicion to be against lawe, in hinderinge the burgesses of useinge theire trades, and openinge theire shoppes, and useinge the markett in this towne, accordinge to the Charter duringe the faire: (2) It beeing apparant that the lords and farmers of the said Lenton faire have continually from tyme to tyme broken the said composicion on their parte, and oppressed the

burgesses contrary to the same.

"(3) And because the same matter is of generall concernment to all the burgesses, and cominaltie of this towne, and soe wilbee, either to theire good or to theire hurt: Therefore this company doe order, and thinck fitt, that if any of the burgesses bee sued, or trobled for keepeinge the market, or keepeinge theire shoppes, or useing theire trades in this towne dureing the said faire, that the same suite shalbee tried at the generall charge of this towne; and the said burgesse or burgesses for soe doeing, to be protected, and defended, at the comon charge of this corporacion."

We have, I believe, no evidence of any action being taken by Alderman Gregory subsequent to this decision; but probably for the purpose of further showing the burgesses that the town would protect them. if interfered with, at a meeting of the Council three years later, namely, 1649, November 7, it was "Agreed if Alderman Gregory trouble any hurgesses for not goeing downe to Lenton feare or for keepeing open shoppes here in towne; that the towne at yr (their) chardg, will defend them, accordinge to former order, and for the reasons theirein, 10 November, 1646."

This appears to have effectually settled the matter, from no further attempt being made to interfere with the burgesses. On p. 315 of Godfrey's Lenton, he tells us that "George Gregory, Esquire, grandson of Alderman William Gregory, obtained from King Charles II. his royall letters patent, dated November 9th, 1663, granting permission for another fair to be held at Lenton, every year, on the Wednesday next after the feast of Pentecost; and on the six several days following."

And, further, "Lenton Fairs retained much of their ancient repute down to the last (18th) century, and were resorted to by all classes of society. The neighbouring squires were not above participating in the annual business and merry-making, as appears from the household book (The Reliquary) of the Hon. Anchtell Gray, of Risley Hall, in Derbyshire:—"1681, November 11. Spent at Lenton faire 00.01.00.'" As resorts for general business purposes the

fairs at Lenton, and numerous other places have practically been discontinued for many years, but especially during the time of railways, as far greater facilities are now available for acquiring and disposing of goods, and general merchandise than in former times.

Most certainly the Gregorys are, or have been a wealthy family, owning much property not only in Nottinghamshire but also in Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, &c. Their chief residence is Harlaxton Hall, about three miles from Grantham, on the Melton Road, and it is one of the finest in the country occupied by a commoner. There is also another branch of the Gregorys at Denton Hall, a mile further than Harlaxton from Grantham and on the same road.

I now propose to take into consideration a very old thoroughfare which for centuries under different names has been well known in the town, and also refer to some of those residing in or close to it. I should rather demur to the idea of entitling it a road, for it would not be wise to take vehicles through it. In 1330, see Records, vol. 1, p. 119, it is called Voutlane and subsequently Vawte Lane, Vallte Lane, but Speed, Thoroton, and Deering entitle it Vault Lane. It has in modern times been known as Drury Hill.

The first name originated from the house once at the north-west corner and fronting to Low-pavement, and for many years, or another on the site thereof, has been occupied by Dr. Ransom, but now I am told by his son in the same profession. This house and the previous one on its site have for centuries been known and referred to in the town and its history. Here was the original mansion of the Plumptres, whose connection with the town continued for four hundred years or more, and during their time it was known as Voute, Vawte, Vallte, or Vault Hall.

It afterwards became the property of the Drury family, and in that way the passage acquired its present name. The old title for the lane appears to go back rather further than the first mention to be found in the Borough Records, nevertheless it seems probable that the name

was taken from the old house, or what belonged to it. When the Plumptre Hospital was first built in the square now known by that title, there is good cause for supposing that its founder, about 510 years since, was residing on this spot, from what was said respecting the cellars.

Deering tells us that the house "had its name from the very large vaults which were under it, where, in the time of the staple of Calais, great quantities of wool used to be lodged. The merchants of the staple were one of the most ancient Companies of Merchants in England, incorporated by King Edward III. The wool staple being then in Calais.

They were granted a coat of arms, for an account of which see Guilim's Heraldry, Edit. 6, which tells us that "This manufacture took its Progress from Time to Time, till the removal of the staple of wool, to Calais, after which time it obtained its greatest lustre, and gave rise to many considerable families in the town, and county, as the Bugges, the Binghams, the Willoughbies, Tannesley, Mappurley, Thurland, Amyas, Allestree, Samons, Plumptres, the Hunts, and others, all merchants of the staple of Calais; in this prosperous state the Woollen Manufacture continued until the reign of Queen Mary I., when Calais was lost (January 8, 1558), and then it gradually went off, until at last it entirely left this place."

The Plumptre family found various persons as Mayors of the town, or other offices in its government, and on several occasions one of them filled the post of Parliamentary representative of the town. Respecting the vaults or excavations under their old house, Deering tells us that in one of them, "in the reign of Charles II., the Dissenters privately met for the exercise of their religion, as they did after the Act of Toleration, publicly, in a house at the upper end of Pilcher-gate, which is since pulled down, and a new one built in its room; the property, and present Mansion House of John Sherwin Esq.

"This place, on account of Mr. Whitlock's and Reynolds (displaced minister of St. Mary's) officiating in it, obtained the byname of 'Little

St. Mary's.'" The Plumptre family afterwards had their chief residence in Stoney-street, Nottingham, until about the end of the eighteenth century, when, or shortly afterwards, they acquired through marriage a seat at Fredville, in Kent, about eight miles south-east of Canterbury, which they made their home. In 1791 John Plumptre, of Plumptre House, Nottingham, died at his London house in Jermyn-street, on February 23, in his 80th year, and was probably the last to stay in the town. He is buried in St. Mary's Church.

The old mansion in Stoney-street was let afterwards for a number of years to different persons. I can find the name of William Wilson as occupying "Plumbtree" House in 1806, though he probably commenced earlier. It was still his residence in 1832, but not in 1834. Possibly his life had ended. He was an Alderman of the town. In 1853, February 21, Plumptre House, with the ground attached, was offered for sale by auction and purchased by Alderman Richard Birkin, for £8,410, after which the new thoroughfare termed Broadway, for vehicles, was formed between Stoney-street and St. Mary's-gate, and a number of new warehouses erected, within a brief period.

I shall now further refer to the old mansion of the Plumptres on Low-pavement. In respect to it, one of our town historians gives us a little information of a sort, which would be gladly accepted if it was more frequently followed. It is in relation to what occurred respecting sales of property, from about 170 years to 260 years since, and is mentioned by Deering, when referring to the old residence of the Plumptres.

He says:—"Land within Towns is greatly improved since the reign of King Charles the 1st. as may appear by Indenture bearing date 1645, the 21st, Charles I., of Vault Hall, mentioned in Section I., being sold to William Drury, the elder, Alderman of Nottingham, by Richard and John Martin, for the sum of £103. Vault Hall, in this Indenture, is said to stand South of the Low-pavement, and between Parkyn's-lane (Drury-hill) on the east, and a Tenement, then William Burrow's, on the

west, and an Orchard in possession of William Bayley on the south, and a Tenter Ground in the tenure of Anthony Wild, sheerman, belonged to it.

"This, in the year 1733, was by William Drury, gentleman grandson of the above-mentioned Alderman Drury, sold to Mr. Gawthorn for £500." Of course, that sum is nearly five times what it cost 88 years previously, though we cannot decide whether any improvements had been carried out during those years in connection with the property. For a town house it must have had, according to Deering, a considerable quantity of land at the back, and no doubt has still, for the large old official map of Nottingham, dated 1827-1829, shows it as not having been lessened in size.

Respecting the narrow roadway being entitled "Parkyn's-lane," Deering, in a note, says:—"This lane was anciently called Voul-lane, then Parkyn's-lane, probably from some of that family living in that house for some time, as it is now called Drury-hill, from the subsequent purchaser." The first mention we have observed of the name of Drury is in 1596, when two of the family were summoned before the magistrates, of which the record is as follows:—"Thomas Drury, of Nottingham, cordwainer, and Fabian Drury, of the same, cordwainer, to be bound to our Lady the Queen in £20, that the said Fabian shall not shoot with any piece at anything living."

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XXIII.

Continuing my remarks respecting the Drurys, I will give an extract from the Council Minutes, p. 284, vol. 4, of The Borough Records of March 9, 1606-7:—"It ys agreed that William Drury shall be Burgesse, payinge fyve marks att midsomer next, and in respect that he hath lyved longe in the towne in very honest sort, and hath maryed a Burges Widow of the same trade, and ys a frehoulder in her right, therefore the fyne of £10 ys reduced to V. marks." At 13s. 4d. per mark, this total was £3 6s. 8d., or one-third of the amount ordinarily paid for that purpose.

In 1633-34 William Drury was elected one of the Chamberlains. In 1635-36 he was one of the Sheriffs. In 1639-40 he was elected one of the Aldermen, and the succeeding year 1640-41 he was chosen for Mayor. He appears to have been in disposition similar to many others of the leading men in the town, whom I have mentioned; he was careful to take at least all that belonged to him, for even whilst he was Mayor (May 13, 1641), one of the presentments by the Mickleton Jury is respecting "Maister William Drury, maior, for anyone the stret in the Low paument with timbare, and carts."

The "Maior" was fined two shillings, which would be equal to fifteen or eighteen shillings in these times.

The first notice of the Drurys' occurs in the last thirty years of the Records, in vol. 4, to 1625, and they are mentioned on numerous occasions, but always spelt as just above written; whilst in vol 5 it is found in several different ways, namely, Drewrie, Druery, Drewry, Drewery, Drewrey, Drurye, and Drury, which latter is, I believe, the name as now used to the old thoroughfare. On July 19, 1686, Master William Drury, who was probably a son of the previous William Drury, is "presented" "for laying wood on ye Loe Pauement, and setting waggons, and carts

there; and also for anoying ye highway by .ye Leene side with a dung hill."

On October 5, 1688, he is again presented "for leading and spreading manure in the Meadows, before Saint Luke's Day." In October, 1688, he is again reported "for anoying Low Pavement, with wood and stone." Alderman William Drury was not only Mayor in 1640-41, but also on three other occasions, namely, 1647-48, 1652-53, and 1659-60. In 1693 William Drury the younger is mentioned as a school warden.

In 1694 William Drury was elected an Alderman and Justice of the Peace, and was, I believe, the father of the one just mentioned and son of the Mayor. He died September 23, 1697. William Drury the younger was elected on the Junior Council in October, 1701; made Sheriff in 1705, and Mayor in 1707. After that date it is probable that no one of his name has occupied that position in Nottingham. It would no doubt be himself, or a descendant, who sold Vault Hall, as previously described, to Mr. Gawthorn, of whom there is evidence that he resided in the house, or on its site, for many years.

I now wish to make further reference to the footroad termed St. Mary's Church-side, and in my time altered to Kaye's-walk; also to an old house of great size, which once stood on the site of the present one. The Date Book tells us that the front door was facing the churchyard, which is quite incorrect, as will shortly be shown. Mr. William Trentham, senior, an extensive hosier, lived in the large old house, once on the site of what is now covered by the warehouse of Messrs. Kirkbride and others.

On April 27, 1812, an attempt was made to murder him. He had spent the evening at Mr. Timms', in Market-street (then against Weekday Cross), with other friends, and returned home just before ten o'clock. He had knocked at his door for admission, when two men, who had been in the graveyard, came towards him, and without parley, one of them discharged a large pistol at him. He was severely wounded in the breast, and for some

time there were grave doubts whether he would survive; but fortunately, by excellent attention and medical skill, he ultimately recovered and lived for a number of years.

Including the arrest, and for the conviction of the assassins, a reward of 600 guineas was offered by the town, but never paid to or claimed by anyone. In the poll book connected with the town election of 1806, Messrs. William Trentham, sen., and William Trentham, jun., recorded their votes as living in St. Mary's-gate, and no doubt this was before (except by stile and footpath) there was any part severed from the graveyard, and proves the assertion I make above to be correct, that the entrance, and doubtless what might be termed the front of the house, was then in St. Mary's-gate.

There was an election in 1812, but on this occasion there cannot be any surprise that the elder Mr. Trentham did not vote, after the despicable attack made, and its effect upon him, earlier in the year; though at this time his son resided in Stoney-street. In 1818, when recording his vote, Mr. Trentham, sen., said that his house was in St. Mary's-gate, and there is no cause whatever for doubting that the chief entrance to it then, if not afterwards, was from that old thoroughfare.

Though this is not all, for I have often conversed with a gentleman, who many years since was a constant visitor at that ancient residence when the successor to Mr. Trentham, sen. lived in it, and he asserts, positively, that the front door was in St. Mary's-gate, which, of course, agrees with the statements of Mr. Trentham, until 1818, when recording his vote, that he lived in St. Mary's-gate. In the large official map of the town, to which I have frequently referred, dating full 75 years since, this ancient dwelling and the ground attached are nicely shown. Of St. Mary's Church-side, otherwise Kaye's-walk, Plumtree House and grounds are shown to occupy almost exactly three-fifths of its length, and the old house the remaining two-fifths. The back land appears to have been pleasantly arranged with paths, flower beds, &c.

Two years later, however, there was a

change, and it is mentioned when voting at a general election in 1820. The entry is as follows:—"Trentham, William, gent., St. Mary's Church-yard." From this we have full and reliable evidence that about 1815-1820 the footroad, as a separate pathway, was made, which is on the northern side of "St. Mary's Church-yard," as entitled by Mr. William Trentham, who lived there when the change occurred; or "St. Mary's Church-side," as termed in 1815 by Blackner. By most they will be considered as practically alike.

This, I think, proves that from the present time it cannot be more than ninety years since that useful passage or footway was formed, and I have not any doubt that its first name was used about thirty years before being changed to "Kaye's-walk," which title I consider has not been applied much longer than, or even so long as, sixty years; but, anyway, there are many now living in Nottingham whose remembrance extends further back than its adoption. From the difference made by Mr. Trentham in his address when voting on the last occasion (in 1820), it is possible that after the thoroughfare had been completed through the Church-yard he may have made another entrance to his house on that side.

In a previous letter I have referred to Daft Smith Churchill, hosier and merchant of Nottingham, who was lost in the wreck of the Forfarshire steam vessel in 1837, when the name of Grace Darling was in everyone's mouth because of her noble endeavours to rescue those on board. Mr. Churchill resided in that old house on "St. Mary's Church-side," after it was vacated by Mr. William Trentham the elder. He had previously occupied a house in King's-place, Stoney-street, which, as I have explained before, was near to the southern side of Messrs. Thomas Adams and Co.'s warehouse.

I have no information respecting those, if any, who lived in that ancient residence after Daft Smith Churchill and his family left it; nor whether he owned it or not; but it was afterwards sold, and a gentleman whom I knew purchased it, with the land attached. I have

heard of a chimney-piece or two, &c., in this interesting old-time mansion which excited much curiosity, but they, with the house, were pulled down, and a modern structure is on the site.

It was also decided to build upon the ground I have referred to as being at the back of the old house. While engaged in getting out the rock necessary to form the substructure, they came, at a good depth, upon a large and tunnelled passage running from the Church-yard, to and under the back ground mentioned. There could be no dispute that it had been there for hundreds of years, though during a very considerable period all knowledge respecting it had been lost. It undoubtedly dated back to pre-Reformation times, for besides the remains of mouldering wood and bones, there were crosses, charms, &c., &c.

A few persons were allowed to see this long forgotten cavern; and the part under the private ground having been cleared of the remains, all of which were placed under the Church-yard, including the width of what is now termed Kaye's-walk, the tunnel was then bricked up at the boundary between the Church-yard, or the Walk, and the ground upon which they were proposing to build. This is probably the first occasion on which these particulars have been published, for at the time, from some cause, it was considered preferable that no announcement should be made of this discovery.

I now desire to make reference to a famous and well-known individual in Nottingham history, together with his noted old mansion, and various other matters with which he was connected, by name or otherwise. I am here alluding to Thomas Thurland. In his time he was undoubtedly a most prominent man, as regards business, wealth, and social rank. I read with interest what I think might be called "An Appreciation" respecting him, written in two or three articles by Mr. William Stevenson, of Hull, about two years since, and agreed with most of his conclusions.

As something to guide us in our opinion of Thomas Thurland, I may say that he was

elected Mayor of Nottingham no fewer than ten times, namely:—1442-43, 1447-48, 1448-49, 1450-51, 1452-53, 1453-54, 1458-9, 1459-60, 1462-63, and 1463-64. This is probably double the occasions of any other person, or as often as any two others. Though this is not all, for he represented the town at three periods in Parliament, during the reign of Henry VI., according to Deering.

He was a merchant of the staple, and his business operations for that time must have been great, and his profits also. I imagine him, as regards wealth, to have been equal to anyone then living in Nottingham, but probably superior, for he purchased large estates in various places. It was he who built the original Thurland Hall, which in olden times was well known, and where afterwards some of the Kings stopped when passing through the town, &c. James I. and Charles I., between them, lodged at Thurland Hall on about six visits. I can just remember the old Hall, or part of it, being pulled down, more than seventy years since.

The Editor of vol. 4 of the Borough Records, p. 443, tells us that "Thurland House (Hall), demolished in 1831, was in Thurland-street." This it is impossible to accept as being correct, for in width the street would not hold it by a large proportion; but besides that, the Hall had been pulled down for some time before the ground was cleared for a street. Until a street is formed, it certainly is not a street, and as Thurland Hall was entirely demolished before the street was commenced, and probably for more than a year, therefore most will say that it never was in Thurland-street, but that the street includes a portion of the site of the Hall.

For some years, as it appears to me, but little was done in filling up the ground with buildings, for times were different then, and when young, with other lads, I have frequently played upon it, a large portion being termed "The Paddock." For many years after demolition the ground where unbuilt upon was more or less covered with debris of the building—old bricks, mortar, pieces of stone, &c. Generally

it was unfenced until building operations commenced, and I consider that full twenty years had elapsed after the Hall was cleared away before the whole of the ground was purchased or built upon.

In the Records it is termed "Thurland House," and if that is the title given in the old manuscripts, it was certainly right that the Editor should use the word "House." Yet practically, as regards all other instances in history, as well as conversation generally, with the people of Nottingham who know anything about it, the name "Thurland Hall," was and is used.

I now desire to introduce a subject of a character quite different to the preceding, and it is in relation to pillars used for carrying the fronts of buildings, for even in my time many of them were of wood (oak). The old style shops once occupying the site on the Long-row, of one now in course of erection, and possibly of another next to it, was, in my remembrance, supported on the front by wooden pillars. These (probably thirty years since) were removed, and cast-iron pillars fixed in their place.

In my early days, 70 years since, one of the shops was occupied by Messrs. George and John Mills, hosiers, &c., and with them I remember that then, or soon afterwards, in the shop was our very aged and respected fellow-citizen, Mr. John Comyn, who died a few years since. I am glad to have this opportunity of introducing his name, for the very active and useful part he took in the arrangement and satisfactory settlement of matters relating to the Freemen or Burgesses of Nottingham. The use of the land, with other sources of income from which (in their turn) many burgesses derived a small annuity, had become in these days antiquated and unjust, the times demanding that such an incongruity should be brought to a conclusion, and the property become the town's for the equal benefit of the whole community. Going back several hundreds of years, there cannot be much doubt that the old system had its benefits, but modern times are totally different, and the old customs had in many instances become obsolete

and inapplicable.

On the Long-row, and close to the western corner of King-street, until the last four or five years were some old premises which had overhanging upper rooms and roofs. These were occupied by Messrs. Skipwith, wine and spirit merchants, and, I believe, owned by them. Wood framing was largely used in their construction. The front of the shops to the Market rested upon wooden pillars, which would have been better for their position, at least in appearance, if they had been from two to three inches more in diameter.

The next place to be mentioned is the Old Town Hall in Weekday Cross. In this case the diameter of the pillars was ample, being similar to some stone ones in the Market-place, and in general appearance, unless carefully examined, they also would be taken for stone, though of oak, for they were worked and moulded in a similar way to stone pillars.

I remember many years since unthinkingly tapping one of them with my stick, and was much surprised with the "kind" of noise it caused, and which for the first time convinced me that they were made of wood. I then carefully inspected the pillars, and in more than one case I found small parts where the wood was clear of paint, and sufficient to show that they were of oak. These bare places were usually near to the bottom of the pillars, where they rested on stone, and would often be damp.

There have, in my remembrance, been many other cases in which wood was used in places where nothing but stone or iron would be thought of in recent days, but it must not be forgotten how much more easily we can now get very heavy material carried, by the aid of steam and railways, which as a fact in former times it would have been practically impossible to move from one town to another. The roads 150 to 200 years since were generally in a terrible condition, and under such circumstances all must be done by wagons and carts at a certain season of the year, and if good stone was required for pillars, in distance it must come at least from Mansfield

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XXIV.

In this article I propose to bring under consideration, some of the changes made in connection with the thoroughfares of Nottingham during the last century, and perhaps a case or two late in the previous one, when I believe it will be found that full nine-tenths have been carried out in the lifetime of many who are still living in the city. This will include the making of new streets and other roadways, the widening, lowering, or raising of streets and avenues also rearranging, re-making, &c.

I shall commence with an old roadway which Deering shows to have been very narrow for two-thirds of its length. Its old name was "Butt-dyke," now Park-row. It is first mentioned in vol. 1. of the Records, p. 429—A.D. 1351. In his "Nottingham Castle," Mr. Hine, in reference to 1797, says:—"The Town ditch in Park-row was filled up. Mr. Stretton says this ditch was cut in the rock, and to add to its security, as a dry moat, the outer edge was made to slope two or three feet inwards.

"In this ditch archery was formerly practised, going back 700 years; hence the name of Butt-dyke. A portion of the ditch may now be seen in the grounds of the General Hospital. (Questionable at this date.) He also observes that in some excavations made at this period, near the west end of Hounds-gate, an ancient-paved carriage-road was discovered 16 feet below the present surface."

The widest part of Butt-dyke (the street) was then at the lower end, but afterwards for many years in the upper portion. The road at that date called Postern-bridge, but now Postern-street, was at its western end almost level, or in a line, with what we now call Ropewalk-street; but it was afterwards rearranged, and brought thirty yards, or a little more, nearer to Chapel-bar. This was an enlargement and

alteration of roads when few, if any, buildings would be disturbed, and fortunately carried out when it could be done at the least possible cost.

In 1801 Mr. Hine tells us that Hollow-stone was lowered. This, I imagine, is the last considerable change in the road, which left it much as we now find it. I think there can be little doubt that the level at the upper part against Stoney-street and High-pavement would be practically unaltered. At the same date changes were made to a portion of the Flood-road (London-road), the seven arches being built by Mr. Stretton.

I am also convinced that it was near this time, or but few years later, when Plumtree-street, as a thoroughfare, was completed from Stoney-street to Bellar-gate. In 1809, the road by the Castle was cut direct into the Park. It passed through or over the old ditch or moat of the Castle, which we are told by Mr. Stretton was filled up to the depth of twenty feet; also that the eastern wall near the Castle-green was taken down A.D. 1795, and the stone used in building a fence wall.

In 1810 the papers of the day inform us that a public subscription having been raised to assist in defraying the cost, the south-eastern corner of Bridlesmith-gate was taken down, and the roadway sufficiently widened to allow of two conveyances passing each other. From this we have evidence of the cramped condition at the south end of that very important thoroughfare early last century, though as will probably be soon shown the opposite end was in a similar contracted state until a considerably later date.

In 1812 Cow-lane was widened sixteen feet with ground given by the Duke of Newcastle, and it was then called Clumber-street. Further particulars are given respecting this work in the First Series, Article XVIII., p. 102. About 1827-28 Carrington-street was formed through ground chiefly belonging to the hospitals founded by Abel Collin. Orange tells us that "with the accumulated funds in the hands of the trustees of this charity the new hospitals in Carrington-street have been erected. The first

twelve were completed in 1831, and the other eight in 1834.

They are now occupied by twenty alms-people, who have the same allowance as those in the old hospital in Park-street. . . . The new street in front (which, with all the land and houses in its vicinity, belongs to this extensive charity) has its name from Lord Carrington, a descendant of the founder, and the head of the family of Smith."

At the time the street was formed, it would undoubtedly be looked upon by all as of full width, and considerably wider than most, but if it had to be arranged for at this date, with electric trams to run along it, and as the chief southern outlet of the city, it is probable that it would be still further enlarged by several yards.

I have above noticed what is said by Mr. Hine (1909) respecting the road cut into the Park. The Date Book mentions a similar occurrence, but fixes the time nineteen years later—namely, in 1828—and tells us that "workmen were engaged in lowering the hill leading into the Park from the Castle Lodge. One of them struck his spade into a hole, and thus led to the discovery of an extensive subterranean passage cut out of the rock; one extremity of it was found to communicate with an ancient but finely-formed doorway, arched over with solid masonry, and the other led to a spiral staircase, and passed under the wall encompassing the Castle yard." Both appear to report upon what was done on the same spot. Even if the work really was at different dates, the description of what was found or seen in each case is very different.

During the last three years the angle on the opposite side of the road to the Castle Lodge, and nearest to St. James's Church, has been considerably rounded off, which has resulted in a great improvement to that part. In 1829, the Leen was arched over in Canal-street and Leen-side; and Boot-lane, which was very narrow, was considerably widened on its western side, and afterwards called Milton-street. Respecting those two roads further particulars will be found in the first series.

In 1902, Boot-lane, or Milton-street, was again added to on the same side, and almost doubled in width. This was necessitated by the great increase of traffic and use of electric trams. 1831-32: About this time I believe Bath-street to have been formed, which connects the bottom of Beck-street with Sneinton Market. This change had been needed many years, for one part of the town was to a great extent severed from another. It was effected with little or no pulling down of houses or other property, and therefore at comparatively trifling cost.

Whilst giving additional particulars, I wish to make a few more remarks respecting Thurland Hall, and specially as regards the statement by the editor of the first four volumes of the Borough Records to be found on page 443, vol. 4, when mentioning Thurland House. He says, "The town house of the Thurland family, demolished in 1831. It was in Thurland-street." The last sentence includes an astonishing assertion. Many will have to learn how it is possible for a large building which was in Gridlesmith-gate, or as now entitled Pelham-street, after it had been thoroughly pulled down, and as will shortly be shown for three years and more previously, can, with the least tinge of accuracy, be said to be in the new street, which was subsequently made through part of the ground where it had once stood.

I do not know of anything whatever in other works relating to the history of Nottingham, that countenances or in the least favours, so strange an assertion. With many others yet residing in the city, I can remember Thurland-street from its formation, but the old house or hall, it is really unnecessary to repeat, was never in it, for as I shall show it had been demolished a considerable time before the street was formed, and that is proved by there being no name attached to it, or street mentioned in the Directory brought out three years after the hall was levelled with the ground.

It is much like answering a joke to argue on such a matter. Our best Directories and most reliable historians all say that it was in the

thoroughfare which is now represented by, or in Pelham-street; and some still alive can of their own knowledge assert that such is the fact. I am quite aware that, being comparatively young men, it is impossible for either of the editors of the Records to remember so far back, by many years, though they should not forget that some are still left who can.

White, in his Directory dated 1832, says:—Thurland Hall, the largest and most ancient mansion in Nottingham, was taken down in 1831 for the improvement of Pelham-street, on the north side of which it stood nearly opposite the Black's Head Inn, which was pulled down in 1830. Dearden, in his Directory, p. 78, dated 1834, when referring to this old structure, says:—"Thurland Hall, Pelham-street, the largest and most ancient mansion in the town, was taken down in 1831, and it is intended shortly to erect a number of splendid houses upon its site, so as to form a spacious street into Lincoln-street."

Both agree, and they affirm that Thurland Hall was "in Pelham-street," though it is chiefly to what is said by Dearden that I wish to now refer, as he wrote three years after the hall had been pulled down. Yet, notwithstanding that interval, there does not appear to have been any steps taken to form a street at that date, nor does he make any reference to "Thurland-street" when writing about the hall, nor is it included in his list of streets, squares, gates, &c., pp. 52 to 60 inclusive, which proves that there was not one of that name in 1834, and probably even for a year or two later.

The last piece of ground in the street was not taken up until 22 years after the old hall had been cleared away, and that was for the Artisans' Library in 1853. I have endeavoured to think of some reason how or why the editor of vol. 4 of the Records could possibly imagine, or state, that Thurland House, or Hall, was in Thurland-street, and unless it was because he supposed it to have been an old street, and not a comparatively new one—which it is—I do not consider that I can account for it, and I must leave it to him for explanation.

I am thoroughly averse to saying anything that would show the least desire to criticise, for I give place to no one as regards the great amount of pleasure I have found when very frequently perusing the Borough Records, but that work differs with most as it is official, and belongs to the city; therefore, as a citizen, and having an interest in it as such, a sense of duty compels me to point out, but without any desire to carp or cavil, all parts or assertions which I believe to be inaccurate, though it is solely for the benefit of those coming after us, and the furtherance of truth.

Mr. William Dearden, the editor of the Nottingham Directory dated 1834, was a printer, &c. who carried on business many years in Carlton-street, about fifteen yards from the top of Pelham-street at the time Thurland Hall was pulled down, and for a long term after the street was formed; therefore his knowledge respecting those circumstances was undoubtedly very complete, and his assertions reliable.

There is one matter which I think should be noticed, and that is respecting some of the ground at the back of the old house or hall. When going out of the northern end of Thurland-street, and turning to the right towards George-street, at the distance of about forty yards, several steps lead into a passage to Lincoln-yard or court in which are some small houses. The back of those to the right of the yard when entering was in that part the boundary line not only of Thurland Hall but also of Mr. Gregory's old mansion, with its land as previously described. I distinctly remember the backs of the houses when the ground was open.

On several occasions about 60 years since, more or less, some streets, roads, &c., were formed, which according to the standard of those days were of ample width, and considered likely to remain so, and one of these was the extension of Carrington-street southward with the bridge over the canal in 1844. A considerable widening has since taken place when building, but particularly on the western side; and about 1902 the bridge also was strengthened and enlarged.

1846.—Albert-street was formed. This also is a case in which no opportunity has since been omitted of widening the roadway whenever possible, which was on an occasion or two successfully carried out. Some reference is made in the first series to the last two cases.

1852.—About this year Bridlesmith-gate was widened at its northern end. It had previously been so very narrow that there was not more room between the curbstones of the causeways close to the Poultry than was convenient to allow of one vehicle passing through. The thoroughfares meeting in that part have since been completely changed in character, and the available space immensely increased.

1855.—About this time the excellent thoroughfare to the top of Mapperley Hill by Woodborough-road was formed, of which many particulars may be found in the fourth article, first series. Respecting some of the dates I cannot speak with certainty, and with others I am guided by memory alone, though I hope they will be found approximately correct.

1850.—Near this period a change was made by which Warser-gate and the upper ends of Fletcher-gate and Bottle-lane were fully connected with Carlton-street.

Some of my older fellow-citizens will remember full half a century since the little old footway in that part which was in importance much dignified by being termed "Queen-street." It was a very narrow passage which—writing from memory—I consider was little, if any, more than two yards wide, and usable for foot-passengers only. The early name was, I believe, retained for a number of years after the enlargement, but since the erection of the large new Post Office buildings, it has been appropriated for that street, and the former place is now entitled "Old Queen-street."

As compared with previous times that part has undergone a complete transformation, and nearly every old landmark near has been removed, though the facilities for getting from one part to another in that locality are now entirely complete, and where there were formerly many small and old buildings there are now a number of large and costly structures.

Respecting this part, we are told in the Records, vol. 3, p. 433, in reference to Bottle-lane that in olden times Hugh de Linby dwelt there, and that it "bore the name of Linby-lane in Thoroton's time (1675)." In vol. 2, p. 473, we are also told that Linby-lane is Bottle-lane, but most singularly in vol. 4, p. 439, the editor says "Linby-lane, now known as Queen-street," and he directs us to p. 174, line 11, which has reference only to the boundary of the ward represented by the "Maioir."

Linby-lane, even according to Thoroton, was what is now termed Bottle-lane, and most assuredly the Records themselves quite favour that idea from what I can find or has so far been mentioned in them, but it certainly was not Queen-street, and especially the thoroughfare as now used, though no remarks are made by the editor, when mentioning it, whether it was the old or new passage which he desired to be understood. I believe him to be correct in the first two extracts, but that he is quite mistaken in the last.

OLD NOTTINGHAM.

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XXV.

I propose to continue my remarks respecting the changes (widening, &c.) which have been made in the streets, roads, &c., of Nottingham. Of those noticed there are, I believe, six which occurred before my time, but no doubt about seventy alterations to thoroughfares have been carried out in my remembrance, of which, I believe, nearly nine-tenths have taken place from 1850 to the end of 1902 inclusive.

About sixty years since, or near 1844, and some time before Thurland-street was fully built upon, advantage was taken of the opportunity to put back the property on each side of its southern end and in the middle of Pelham-street, by which much additional space to allow of vehicles passing there was obtained; and about ten years later, or near 1854, it was (proportionately) much widened on the southern side of the street at the top. Many of my old fellow-citizens will remember that there was but little room to spare when an ordinary vehicle passed through there, but after the change took place the roadway was sufficient in width to allow of conveyances passing each other.

This, of course, was a very beneficial alteration, though even now it is too narrow, and its usefulness would be greatly increased if it was possible to add five more yards to its width. In a previous article (No. 52) I have referred to what I consider an encroachment by the Gregorys when building there, and mentioned three feet as being taken from the street, but on a closer examination of the spot I am quite convinced that about four feet was appropriated in 1674, though I may perhaps prove that there is still full three feet more in the same part which was taken from the street, at or about that date, to its serious detriment.

Until about 1852 the road at the top of the

Forest was called "Forest-side," but about that time, and especially towards the Mansfield-road end, its course was made much more direct. It was re-formed, widened, levelled, &c., and completed in a very much better and different mode to what had previously been the case. At that date there were not many houses in or near it, excepting at each end. Shortly after these changes it was renamed "Forest-road."

About the year 1852, as near as I can estimate, considerable changes were made to several thoroughfares; the old name of the first to be mentioned was Ling-dale, which full two hundred and fifty years since was changed to "The Bowling-alley"—this title many of my older fellow-citizens who have resided near will easily remember, though about fifty years since, or a little more, it was again changed to Waverley-street. Going back many years I have frequently wondered how it acquired the name of Bowling-alley, together with Bowling-alley Fields, &c.

I desire now to state that a considerable time back I was fortunately successful in obtaining an exceedingly rare and interesting map of the old borough (in addition to the large old official map), on which, too, all the fields are fully set out, and in a considerable number of cases their old names are given, various localities being also designated with their ancient titles. The old Racecourse, as probably first formed about 230 years since, is also shown. This in shape and size is entirely different to what anyone will remember. It completely filled up the whole length of the "Forest" (as now termed), which at that time extended from Mansfield-road to Alfreton-road, and whose old name was "Nottingham Lings" (1699).

There was but one track for a considerable portion of the course, in the middle, and this part it was necessary when racing, should be traversed twice (going and returning), but at each end there was a large loop to run round. It is, without doubt, more than one hundred years since that very old course was run upon, or about the beginning of last century. It was probably not less than double the length of the course since made on the Forest, but

now disused.

The map shows that at one time there really was a Bowling-alley at the top of what we now know as Waverley-street, at its north-east corner next to the old Forest-side (now road). Until the present time I have neither seen nor heard of a similar map. It is extremely rich in old-place names, and on numerous occasions localises them, some of which places appear not to have been known to the editors of the Borough Records, and no doubt most others, though I hope to cast some light on several of the various parts shortly.

The first to be mentioned is connected directly with the locality under observation. On a former occasion, and in the third article of the first series, I have briefly referred to the neighbourhood. I now wish to notice p. 402 in Vol. II. of the Records respecting a lease "of five acres of arable land called 'Sunnyiwong' lying in Lyngdalefelde." This takes us back to 1404, or five hundred years, but there is most certainly little or no room for doubting that "Lyngdalefelde" is merely the old name for the large Bowling-alley Field, which was open to the road of that name (now called Waverley-street) that ran through and divided it into two unequal parts, by far the larger being eastward, and including much of the Arboretum, &c.; the smaller portion being westward of the road, into one corner of which (north-west) ran little Larkdale.

Many other old inhabitants of the city will also easily remember these circumstances, but especially those who, like myself, resided near. In the Borough Records, Vol. I., p. 435, the editor mentions "Lingdalefeld," and says that it was "No doubt a portion of Lingdale." Strictly speaking, this is probably correct, though, going back fifty-five years or more, the term "Bowling-alley," which superseded "Lingdale," would, I have little doubt, in the thoughts of those well knowing it, be represented quite as much by the old uneven sandy road as by the ground or fields near.

This would also be the case with little Larkdale, which was a very narrow pathway between hedges, and probably less than one-fifth

of a mile in length. I am glad to think that, with the aid of the old map mentioned and its many names, I have been enabled to describe the exact spot where "Lyngdalefeld" was situated, though it must be thoroughly understood that this is an additional map to the large old official one to which I have before and so frequently alluded.

In further reference to Lingdale and Larkdale, the editor of the Records, Vol. I., p. 435, says it was "so called from the ling, or heath, growing there." This is undoubtedly incorrect, for that side of the hill from the top of Lingdale, or the Bowling-alley (Forest-side), and Larkdale also, was excellent grass or pasture land, from which in various parts both myself and others at intervals have seen good crops of hay gathered, between what is now called Forest-road and Wollaton-street, or Parliament-street.

It was by Lingdale and Larkdale that people from different portions of the town in former times would walk to "Nottingham Lings," which is the old name for what has in recent times been termed "The Forest," and, if ling or heath did grow anywhere, it was in that part called The Lings, which was probably suitable for their growth from being land of poor quality at that date, though it has been greatly improved during the last fifty-five years.

1851.—About this date Fox-lane, Goosewong-lane, and the narrow uneven track (in various places) was widened, regulated, paved, &c., and the present Woodborough-road made, which is now an excellent route to Mapperley Plains, &c. For particulars see Article 4, First Series.

1852.—Near this date I believe Shaw's-lane to have been considerably widened, and formed into a very excellent thoroughfare. That was the old name from Parliament-street to Babington-street, but after completion it was called Sherwood-street in its whole length until Forest-road was reached.

1852—or near the same date—Back-lane was altered to its present form, and much rock was cut away on the eastern side at its upper end and then called Wollaton-street.

1852—about the same time—Cross-lane was

much widened and formed in its present excellent mode, being afterwards entitled Shakespeare-street. This was formerly a filthy, rutty road, deep in mud. At a similar date also I consider that Mapperley-road was formed. It connects the top of Mansfield-road with Woodborough-road. In each of the four last-mentioned changes, further particulars may be obtained in previous articles.

In a number of instances I am necessitated to give approximate dates respecting the alterations, though generally speaking it will be possible to select those respecting which there is any uncertainty.

1853.—About this year the bridle road to Wilford Ferry was transformed into a good road, as all now know, and in a short time afterwards a commencement was made to erect new houses. Near that date Bluecoat-street was formed between Mansfield-road and Sherwood-street. This may perhaps be considered the more probable from the fact that the new Bluecoat School at the north-eastern corner of the street was built in 1853.

In that year, May 6th, there is an interesting reminiscence of old Nottingham recorded in the Date Book, which I remember and will notice, namely:—"In the construction of a sewer on Smithy-row, at about the depth of two feet, the excavators found a thick layer of concrete, composed of particles of iron in firm cohesion with sand and gravel, the whole forming a solid mass of great hardness and weight. It is conjectured that this deposit was the result of the sweepings from the 'row' of 'smithies' which formerly extended from High-street to within a few yards of the Exchange."

1853.—In this year Stanford-street was formed, which has most undoubtedly proved a convenient mode of access to the railway stations, &c., and had long been needed. For conveyances especially, very much additional ground was passed over previously in going to or from the railways, &c., to what fortunately is now necessary.

In 1853 the north-west corner of Parliament-street was widened to allow of two vehicles

passing each other, though it will be found to have been briefly referred to in a previous article. The chief alteration to this part, however, was in 1902, when the still narrow roadway was formed into one of the first class, to allow of electric trams running in it, and as an alternative route for them from the Market-place by Market-street, or, if necessary, into the Market-place. A fuller account of this change will be found in Article 19, First Series.

1853.—Broadway was formed, connecting Stoney-street with St. Mary's-gate, and briefly referred to before.

1853.—About this date a great change and improvement was made, which I wish to further mention as regards the connecting of the north end of Fletcher-gate, the west end of Warser-gate, and the east end of Bottle-lane with the west end of Carlton-street, the east end of Pelham-street, and also of Chander's-lane, as it was then, but which in 1862 was, as respects the buildings, entirely cleared away, and the present Victoria-street formed.

Previously Queen-street was only a narrow pathway, which was for foot-passengers alone. It was at this time flagged. When speaking of its width with a gentleman, he expressed his confidence that with his outstretched arms he could almost have touched both sides. I feel assured that his idea, if not correct, was not far from being so, for I believe it to have been not more than two and a half yards wide, but rather less, though possibly as increasing its dignity, if not its size, it was entitled "street," and certainly there are very few "streets" of a similar kind. It was known by that name in Deering's time, who died in February, 1749.

Since the formation some years back of King and Queen streets, which form at their top ends a double connection with Parliament-street from the Market-place, in the latter of which an enormous building for the Post Office, &c., has been erected, the wide and excellent roadway, which nearly fifty years since was made as a substitute to the old contracted foot-road, or pathway, has been for probably about ten years designated Old Queen-street.

In connection with this ancient narrow

thoroughfare, which I believe to have been named after Queen Anne, and also with Bottle-lane, the editors of the Borough Records appear to have been rather confused, and give different explanations in various volumes.

According to Vol. II., p. 426, Hugh de Lyndeby was Mayor of Nottingham in 1400-1401, and commencing in 1384-5 he had previously been a bailiff on two occasions, and was therefore well known in the town. On page 442, "Linby-lane" is described as "the lane leading towards Hugh de Lindeby's house. He appears to have dwelt in Bottle-lane, which bore the name of Linby-lane in Thoroton's time. Hence the lane mentioned as going out of Walsed (or Warser) Gate is the present Queen-street."

I quite agree with the editor in that extract so far as the locality is concerned, and an old but small footpath, which many of us in the city still remember; but when he asserts it to be "the present (now Old) Queen-street," which has been formed as it now is for barely half a century, we need some further explanations from him, for what he was then writing about has reference to the year 1435. It will be noticed that Thoroton (1675) calls it Linby-lane, and the editor admits that to be, or to mean, Bottle-lane (of a later date).

In Vol. III., p. 473, when referring to the same lane the editor, as I believe truly, gives Bottle-lane as its equivalent. Nevertheless, in Vol. IV., p. 439, he says, "Linby-lane, . . . now known as Queen-street"; and refers us to Vol. III., where we are informed on p. 473 that it is "Bottle-lane." The editor of Vol. V. and the last, unfortunately, which is at present published, also repeats these very singular statements, and says on p. 449, "Linby-lane, . . . now Queen-street." This not only contravenes what we are told in Volumes II. and III., but is also in opposition to our two most trusted and reliable historians, Thoroton and Deering (1676 and 1749), which as regards Thoroton the editor of Vol. II. acknowledges.

It is almost a certainty that in Thoroton's time "Bottle-lane" as a title was not known, but 75 years later, with Deering, we have evidence on p. 12 that it was in use even if it did

not thoroughly prevail, for when giving the number of houses and people living in the various streets, lanes, roads, &c., of Nottingham, he says, "Bottle-lane, see Linby-lane" and on referring to it we are told that there were 13 houses and 59 persons living in Linby-lane. I cannot interpret these peculiar statements in the Records, but must leave them for the two editors to explain.

1855.—Park-drive was opened this year to form an approach from Canal-street to the Park. This, as most will know, was many years before the Boulevard was formed. In 1856 a commencement was made with the tunnel under the hill, leading from Derby-road to the Park Valley. Near this time the end of Warser-gate next to Stoney-street was widened.

Probably about the same year (1855) Red-lane, now Redcliffe-road, for vehicles was, I believe, in living memory the chief road leading to the top of Mapperley Hill, but in character and quality it was most undesirable from being on clay land for the most part and practically unmade. It was afterwards at a very considerable outlay formed into a most excellent route.

In rainy and winter seasons I cannot think of any road to compare with that in the denunciations uttered by those compelled to use it. For its almost impassable condition, deep in the clay, was made much worse by steepness of the hill. I am sure I shall be within bounds in saying that I have seen the greater part of one hundredweight of clay adhering to each wheel of a heavy cart after passing through that lane in the worst time of the year.

OLD NOTTINGHAM

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE. &c

XXVI.

In March, 1852, a commencement was made to pull down the houses, &c., on each side of that antiquated and well-known but narrow roadway called Chandler's-lane, for the purpose of forming a much wider and more useful communication between the east and west of the town; and also to aid in "the shaping" of what since the new Post Office was erected, a few years ago, has been called Old Queen-street, respecting which particulars will be found in a previous article.

This contracted roadway was well known in olden times, and is noticed at intervals in the Borough Records. The first occasion I have observed is in Vol. I., p. 430, A.D. 1366 and 1389. It is there called Candelar-lane, and in Vol. II., p. 359, Candelar-lane. About two hundred years later it had become Chandeler-lane, and from that no great effort was needed to make it Chandler's lane.

Respecting it and Lynbe-lane (now Bottle-lane) there was formerly at their upper ends a narrow way of communication between them and other thoroughfares near, which I have before referred to as being dignified when ranked with a street (Queen-street). Whilst alluding to Chandler's-lane, the editor of Vol. V. of the Records, p. 448, without any explanation, says: "Now Victoria-street," which I consider will probably at some future time completely mislead those who see it.

An ordinary reader from such a statement has a right to suppose that a change had occurred in the name only of the lane, whereas it was as a thoroughfare practically obliterated, of which in a few words some intimation should certainly have been given by the editor, such as is introduced in Vol. I., p. 430, by those responsible for the first volume. This street was the earliest in the provinces to have a subway constructed under it. In 1875 it was illuminated, says Mr. Hine, on the occasion of

a visit from the Derbyshire Engineers and their president, Lord Edward Cavendish.

1864. Near this time, I believe, Willoughby-row—the old name for which was Pennyfoot-row—and also Pennyfoot Stile were each considerably widened. In quite recent times the eastern end of Fisher-gate has been advanced, and old Pennyfoot-row or Willoughby-row (which was a street similar in some degree to Spaniel-row) has been absorbed by it, and now that portion of Fisher-gate ends where the part once called Pennyfoot Stile, or as in recent times entitled Pennyfoot-street, begins. Undoubtedly during the last forty years or thereabouts an immense improvement has been made in this locality, not only from the widening of roads, &c., but also by the provision of recreation grounds near, which for that section of the city must prove to be a great boon.

There is still another passage in that part I must mention, which on Deering's map is called "Back-lane." To many old inhabitants this may appear strange and especially if when young they were much connected with the western outlets of the town. Their idea of Back-lane will probably be as formerly, from the upper part of Parliament-street and reaching to the open space on the top of Derby-road in front of the General Cemetery; and therefore it was considerably longer than the other old lane just noticed, of which there is little room for doubting that about the time its name of Back-lane (with which title it was attempted to displace Pennyfoot-lane) ceased to be used, or shortly after, it was applied to the western outlet and probably about 120 or 130 years since.

In Deering's (1745) map the thoroughfare we now term Wollaton-street has no separate name, and with but little doubt it was included with the part designated "Back-side," and when "one Rouse," as mentioned in Article 13, p. 74, succeeded in changing the name to Parliament-street the title "Back-lane" was then, or soon after, transferred from the eastern part of the town to this western outlet.

As regards Pennyfoot-lane, I first find it in Vol. I., p. 339, of the Records and A.D. 1397,

when there was a violent assault committed in it; and also on p. 437 same Vol., where the editor says, "Penyfotlane, Penyfutlane . . . Pennyfoot Stile; called Pennyfoot-lane by Thoroton." Why then should he ignore Thoroton, who wrote with a full knowledge of it; also when he and Deering together with all the most reliable old maps, &c., entirely differ with him? There was, until 1780, not only Pennyfoot-lane, but also Pennyfoot-row and Pennyfoot Stile as roadways or passages, though varying in character, and all are shown or referred to in some way by Deering.

When mentioning the streets, &c., with the houses and souls, on p. 13 he says:—Pennyfoot-lane, see Back-lane. On turning to p. 12 we are told that Back-lane had nine houses and 57 people living in it, and that Pennyfoot-row had seven houses and 32 persons living in them. In Deering's time, and on his engraving of the eastern part of the town, as before referred to, Pennyfoot Stile itself is clearly shown, but there was at that date only a narrow footpath leading to it. In 1780, as previously mentioned, Willoughby's Hospital was built in Pennyfoot-row, and from then the name was changed to Willoughby-row.

As regards the attempt to substitute Back-lane for Pennyfoot-lane, I am glad to say that it did not then succeed, and that the old name was used even in my time; but then an attempt was made to change it to Water-lane or street, which ultimately succeeded, and that is its present title. Pennyfoot-lane and Pennyfoot Stile it is true at one end were close to or adjoined each other, but at right angles, the first going mainly northwards and the latter eastwards, and therefore Pennyfoot-lane could not possibly be Pennyfoot Stile.

White in his Directory of 1832 and Dearden in 1834 allude to both places, and even up to the middle of last century (1852) at an election different voters notified their residences as being in Pennyfoot Stile, Pennyfoot-lane, and Willoughby-row (formerly Pennyfoot-row). Respecting the first, it had by this time become much enlarged and with a number of houses

erected in it. The editor also says in Vol. 2, p. 445: "Penyfotelane . . . Pennyfoot stile"; which has been fully shown to be quite incorrect.

Of the various particulars just mentioned some have been obtained from the large old official map of Nottingham to which reference has so frequently been made. I should before have stated that the editor of Vol. V. of the Records, and the last issued, says on p. 450, "Pennyfoot-lane . . . Pennyfoot Stile"; which also is entirely erroneous and appears to be copied from Vol II. It would have given me much pleasure if the two editors had been fully provided with, and so enabled to refer to, more reliable maps and documents relating to streets, &c., of the old town than unfortunately seems to have been the case, judging by the discrepancies which have at different times been pointed out.

I desire next to mention an ancient Nottingham thoroughfare, respecting which, in Vol. I., p. 430, reference is made to A.D. 1315, or nearly 600 years since. Its modern name is Castle-gate, though there were of old several variations—such as Castelgat, Castilgate, Castelgate, &c. The street was in the French part of the old town, and appears to have been specially noted from its connection with that nationality, for in former times it was frequently designated "French-gate," which in the language of that period was Franchegate, Freynchgate, Fraunkissahgate, &c., though occasionally the Latin term "Vicus Franciscus" was also used.

Some of my older fellow-citizens will no doubt remember "The Old Angel" public-house on High-pavement at the corner of St. Mary-gate. It was a very old style of wooden-framed house, and to many it was known as "Bugge Hall," after an ancient family of that name who once lived in it. Here originated the Bugges, the Bingshams, the Willoughbys, &c. Though we also have frequent reference in the Records to Bugge Hall, or House in Castle-gate, I have not yet been able to fix the exact spot it occupied in that part.

In former times Cheapside was entitled Raton

or Rotten-row, and there was also a Rotten-row in or near to Castle-gate, of which the exact place is at present, I believe, uncertain. In Vol IV. of the Records, p. 136—1569, is the following:—"Item for a borde and neyles for the common welle in Castylgate, 8d." This proves that there was a public well in that street. On p. 144 there is another entry as follows:—"Item payd to tow women for carydg of sand and stone to Castyll-gate ende and Peper-stret ende, 10d." Fortunately, women have ceased doing work of this sort for a long period.

1864.—In this year Lister-gate was considerably widened, the premises on both sides being to a large extent rebuilt, and were of a much more imposing character. In olden times we read of the very undesirable condition of this ancient avenue, with its stepping-stones to get across the almost impassable road, also an open sewer running down it, and a part raised considerably with posts, &c., to keep clear of the mud.

The bottom part is described as being little better than a marsh or bog, though no doubt this very objectionable condition of things had been greatly improved before the widening occurred, but the lower part was again raised; and probably in one portion by nearly a yard. At that time, and for about forty or fifty yards lower than the bottom of Low-pavement the road was comparatively steep, but after the bottom part near Broad Marsh had been raised, a line was drawn or worked to from there to the top end, which resulted in the present easy gradient.

A considerable addition was no doubt made at that period to the width of Lister-gate, but with our present day experience of Nottingham, and its largely increased population, electric trams, the great extension of the city and suburbs in that direction, the opening of the Boulevard to Lenton, Radford, &c., we may rely upon it as a fact that if the change to that thoroughfare had to be made now, it would without doubt result in its being five or six yards wider.

This is a very old roadway, and the first

mention I observe of it in the "Borough Records" is in 1303. Its present title of Lister-gate is a corruption of the old word "Litster," a dyer; or "Lytstergate," as named in the middle ages. In the "Borough Records," Vol. II., p. 443, A.D. 1402, we are told that "Robert German left by his will, dated 1402, a tenement in the street leading to the Friars Minor, formerly belonging to Robert de Spondon, littester."

1863.—In January this year the new bridge over the Midland Railway on Wilford-road was sufficiently advanced to allow of its being used. This was undoubtedly a great public convenience, and after that time there was a large amount of building operations carried on, in and near to that road.

1855.—Probably about this date Queen's-walk was formed, but unfortunately the ground was not raised sufficiently, and therefore when the Trent overflowed its banks the walk was generally flooded. This had been the case on a number of occasions, and the Town Council decided that the walk should be raised above ordinary flood level, which was done, and it was reopened July 29th, 1862. I remember in several instances seeing it more or less under water.

1865.—October 2, Goose Fair day. During the Mayor's (William Page, Esq.) procession when proclaiming the fair, he stopped in the middle of the new roadway which had been formed to a small extent on the site of old Sheep-lane, and declared "that it is, and shall be called, Theatre-street." The choice of such a name caused great dissatisfaction in the town, with much correspondence in the newspapers, many calling upon the Council to cancel it for a more appropriate one, and in a short time it was altered to its present designation, which is no doubt an improvement.

Though even that change was not wisely thought out, for it involved another street and title with it. Before that period the part of the highway between the lower end of Fletcher-gate and Weekday-cross was called Market-street; this term was transferred as mentioned to the new street. I do not positively

remember the fresh name to the old street, though I consider it was "Old Market-street," but since that time there has been another change there, and the whole of the space from Fletcher-gate to High-pavement and to Middle-pavement is now designated Weekday-cross.

There is absolutely no necessity whatever for all this "chopping and changing," which causes Nottingham to appear as if it was poverty stricken, as regards its choice of place names, whereas it is rich beyond most places. With great ease a considerable number of titles could have been selected, and of a most suitable kind had it been required, from our old town worthies, &c.

I have more than once previously referred to this subject; and, rather singularly, in February, 1904, I received a newspaper cutting from a large town in the north with an account of a meeting of the Council, when a change in the names of various streets was recommended and discussed, and at which a committee was appointed to consider the matter and to report.

In this case there must necessarily be some attention given to the proposed alterations of name, but with us it appears to be a mere lottery or game of chance, or no better than a "toss up" whether we shall retain the extremely old name (1400 years) of Outgang-road or adopt the unmeaning "Hartley-road," and also to decide whether we shall retain old Mill-street, where the first cotton mill in the world was erected, (though of humble proportions) or accept the title of "Bow-street," which is ridiculous and grossly inconsistent as compared with the first title.

I was very glad to observe also that in this northern town, the mover of the resolution in his introductory remarks was careful to mention that "there were many names of old landmarks which he would not like to touch." This is almost the opposite to what most unfortunately is the case with ourselves in Nottingham, for the "old land-marks" are all gradually disappearing, and in that sense the present times are severed from the past. Is it too good or too late to hope, or expect, that

our City Council will take steps to ensure that the same attention and consideration shall in the future be given to changes in the names of streets, roads, &c., and to the preservation of the "old land-marks," as was the case in that large northern town?

In 1865 the Walter memorial fountain was built between the lower end of Lister-gate, and the ends of Carrington-street and Greyfriars-gate. It was inaugurated in 1866, Mr. R. C. Sutton being the architect. At the time of its erection the open space was enlarged by ground taken from the end of Collin's Hospital adjoining, which greatly improved the facilities for traffic in that now most important and exceedingly busy centre. Having no name, it is necessary to describe it, and "Hargreaves-square" would undoubtedly be a proper and suitable title, as mentioned in an earlier article.

1866.—During this year Park-row was considerably widened at the bottom end on its western side. Before that date it would not be more, even if so much, as five yards wide. This was for a length of about eighty yards, when it became much wider. There was room for one narrow causeway, which was on its eastern side, the other having a number of pieces of stone fixed against the walls every few yards to prevent vehicles catching against them. The buildings removed were generally of the commonest, and most undesirable character.

OLD NOTTINGHAM.

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XXVII.

In 1866 the viaduct was erected over the Midland Railway, close to the Carrington-street Canal Bridge, and formed a continuation of it. Before this work was carried out, as a consequence of the level crossing, there were constant interruptions to the street traffic, and the inconvenience from that cause to those frequently using this outlet of the town was very great. For a time there was a wooden bridge by which foot-passengers could cross the line, but except in cases of necessity, while it was allowed to remain, it was not generally used, for there were many steps to take in going up and descending.

During last year (1903), to suit the convenience of all, the large new station of the Midland Railway was in process of construction; great alterations were carried out at the junction with Queen's-road, and also with the approach from Arkwright-street, which was raised considerably, the company being obliged to purchase the property in that part on each side, for in some cases the new level of the road reached up to the middle of the windows of various shops or houses.

The entrance to Queen's-walk was also considerably altered, and more closely connected with the bridge or road than formerly. Altogether, this part is now generally speaking not only much more convenient and decidedly improved in the public portion, but also as regards the passenger and ticket arrangements of the new station, which is on the level of the bridge, whereas previously, and in the old station, it was level with the platform.

1868.—Near this date I believe a new thoroughfare to have been made connecting Mount-street with Park-row. Cumberland-place had extended from Park-row for probably two-thirds of the distance towards Mount-street, when it was blocked by buildings, and it

is this part which was removed. The title to it is still Cumberland-place.

1868, or as I believe about that time, Exchange-walk was formed. Some of us remember the old and little passage through there, which was termed "Gear's-yard," and afterwards "Farmer's-yard," this no doubt was from Mr. James Farmer, who probably still owns the extensive drapery establishment near. When the narrow footway was transformed into its present size and style, I have heard it asserted, and as I believe truly, that the work was mainly if not completely carried out by Messrs. Smith, of the Bank, and Mr. Farmer, draper. It was also said that at the time, under certain conditions, the town had the opportunity of making a street through from St. Peter's-square to the Market-place, though most particulars are now forgotten.

When mentioning King's-place, Stoney-street, in a previous article, I should have referred to a proposal, after the houses were pulled down, for a new road being made through that part to St. Mary-gate. There is at present an inlet or "cul de sac" which probably goes more than half the distance, and I have seen it stated that the Corporation offered to subscribe £300 towards the cost of cutting through, which would specially be in connection with the part next St. Mary's-gate, but unfortunately from some cause those interested were unable to carry out the work they had hoped.

1871.—On July 25th of this year the present bridge over the Trent, on the London-road, was opened. It is an immense improvement upon the old and very narrow one preceding it, which was mostly built of stone; but unfortunately at that period they had no knowledge of, or did not use causeways, and that is certainly one reason why in olden times both streets and bridges were much less in width than they would have been had they provided such conveniences. I have before remarked upon the danger to foot passengers on the bridge, had there been no recesses over the piers into which they could step when conveyances were meeting or passing, there being no room to spare.

The new bridge is in a large degree composed of iron, and the arches are far less numerous than in the old one, three of them being nearly one hundred feet wide, whereas they were generally, I believe, not much, if any, more than fifteen feet. The number of piers carrying the seventeen arches composing the old bridge were most certainly from their thickness a great impediment to the free flowing of the stream, and without doubt to a considerable extent must in times of flood have held the water back, and caused the river to overflow its banks earlier than otherwise would have been the case.

The full width of the new bridge is about forty feet, and the causeways seven, therefore there are twenty-six feet clear for the passage of conveyances, which would allow of three abreast without difficulty, but if it had to be built in these days there is little doubt that it would be nearly, if not quite, sixty feet wide. At certain seasons of the year I frequently pass over it, and the throng is occasionally so considerable with passengers and vehicles, that it is almost impossible for cyclists to ride over, and if in the future electric trams be also taken to Bridgford, as it is often asserted will be the case, undoubtedly a width of sixty feet would not in the least exceed what is requisite.

The bridge is about twenty-seven feet above the summer level of the water. From its northern end to the commencement of the approach at its southern extremity, the length is about 760 feet. It was completed and opened during the Mayoralty of John Manning, Esq., from plans by M. O. Tarbotton, C.E. Mr. John George Woodward was then Sheriff of Nottingham.

1878.—It was, I believe, near this period when an addition was first made in width to some portion of Byard-lane. It is certainly much altered in appearance within living memory, though business premises have considerably increased in it, and houses or dwellings are proportionately much fewer. It is a very old passage, though in former times known by another name, and as some will remember in recent times also.

Its old title was Walleonlane, or Walleonenlane or Walnenlane, see Records, Vol. I., p. 440. It is first mentioned in 1315 as Walleonlane. In Vol. II., p. 448, A.D. 1406, it is called Walnenlane, and several cases are referred to respecting property, which is described as next to or near it. Regarding the one in 1406, it says, "A messuage in the Fleschamles (Shambles), Weekday Market. . . next the lane called 'Walnenlane' on the north." The editor says, "Probably Bayard-lane," and I think all will agree with him. The Weekday Market was Weekday Cross.

The first occasion on which I have seen its modern name mentioned is in the Records, Vol. V., page 158. A.D. 1633, when amongst the presentments at the sessions is "John Parsons for Annoyeinge Byard Lane with Rammell and fillth." For this he was fined 3s. 4d., which would be equivalent to about 25s. at this time. We may, therefore, conclude that the present name dates back about 300 years.

I cannot be sorry, as regards this roadway, that the Council were to a certain extent compelled to revert to the old title of Byard-lane once more, after unwisely allowing it to be superseded by "Dininghall-street," and it is much to be hoped that, unless fully considered and advisable, they will not accede in the future to requests by private persons or firms which involve a change in the names of old thoroughfares. As in various other instances, this lane most likely acquired its present title from someone having the same name, who at one time lived in it or owned property there.

It was probably about the year 1876 when old Wood-lane, which in former times was the part where St. Ann's well was situated, underwent considerable change, having been made into a first-class way in width, &c., though after completion its title was changed to Thorneywood-road. This to a certain extent assisted in keeping Sherwood Forest in memory, as it was the name of the smaller section of it, but Wood-lane reminded us that it was the road to what they frequently called "Nottingham Wood," though usually entitled the Coppice, of which there were two parts, the far coppice and

the near coppice; names almost equivalent for wood. It was afterwards styled "The Well's-road."

As a reminder of the locality where the wood once was, we have the Coppice Asylum. In the Borough Records reference is constantly being made by the Town Council, &c., to the two coppices, and to orders given respecting the trees, though I imagine that all have been cleared away for one hundred and fifty years or rather more.

1874.—Beck-lane was widened during that year in its whole extent, but chiefly on its eastern side. For a part of its length and at the upper end in past times, it was for foot passengers only; and when completed its name was changed to Heathcote-street. This is one of the old thoroughfares of the town. I first find it mentioned in the Records, Vol. I., p. 428, A.D. 1387. We have it is true a roadway called Beck-street even now; though that title has been given to it in my time, for in the large old official map of Nottingham (1829) it is called "Beck Barn."

Five years later (1834), Dearden in his directory says, "Beck Barn, now Beck-street," and for full forty years; that is, from a year or two previous to 1834 until 1874, or when the change was made to Heathcote-street, there were the two thoroughfares, namely, Beck-lane and Beck-street, yet the editor of Vol. IV of the Records, p. 433, says, "Beck-lane . . . see preceding volumes. Beck-street." It is almost needless to say that no change from Beck-lane to Beck-street ever took place.

Practically it might be said that it was impossible for another important reason, that Beck-lane could be Beck-street, even for the forty-three years during which they had somewhat similar names, for Beck-lane was on the opposite side of a main thoroughfare and was a footpath for about half its length, commencing at the Goose-gate end, and at the entrance from that part, it certainly could not be much more than two yards wide. There were facilities for the passage of a vehicle from the lower end of the lane against St. John's-street until near to High Cross-street, when it was flagged with

Yorkshire stone and a footpath only. These circumstances are still in the remembrance of a large number of people in the city.

As far as I have observed, both in the records and all other sources of information, except perhaps as regards variations in spelling, the lane appears during the course of centuries to have retained its old title until 1874, when the narrow passage was transformed into Heathcote-street.

We may see from what is referred to above that as a name Beck-lane had doubtless been in use 500 years or more until 1874, when it was discontinued; whereas at that date Beck-street went back less than one-tenth of that time—approximately 43 years, to 1831. There is yet another and most important reason why Beck-lane should not, or, to a certain extent could not, be changed to Beck-street, for the first was within the walls of the old town, and the latter without.

When examining vol. 3 of the Records a few years since I was rather astonished to see on p. 476 that when the old roadway, "Sardelane," is referred to in A.D. 1528, p. 442, the editor says:—"Sandy-lane, recently renamed Beck-street." This was an enigma to myself and others, not only because the term "Sandy-lane" had been superseded by Millstone-lane, dating back, from the present time, by no less than a century; but also that, officially speaking, there was no Sandy-lane for at least 30 years previously to there being a road called Beck-street, which was unknown as a street when Millstone-lane was first used as a title.

I am glad to say, however, that recently, and whilst engaged with these notes, I observed on p. 442, vol. 4, that the editor gives a different, but this time correct, account of it, for he says: "Sandy-lane, now known as Millstone-lane." Though from that name having been adopted, most certainly by or before the commencement of last century, it would have been in use officially for not less than 85 years when vol. 3 of the Records was published (1885).

It is quite true that when a youth I frequently heard Sandy-lane mentioned, but that would be from about 56 to 68 years since. I

think that Sandy-lane was quite as good a name as Millstone-lane, for I believe the former was probably so entitled from being a part, or near to, where the real division occurs of the sand and the clay land.

Respecting the exact period when the name of Millstone-lane was first used, I cannot now give it; but I may say that I have carefully looked through the list of those belonging to the town who voted at the election in 1806, and find that ten or twelve are entered as living in Millstone-lane, but I did not notice one case where the voter said that he resided in Sandy-lane, and no doubt that name had not been used much for years. The lower end of this lane commenced from the western side of Beck Barn (now Beck-street), and it was practically impossible to include it in Beck-street at such an angle.

In my younger days the name was completely associated with a low quarter of the town, which was looked upon by many as being morally objectionable. 1874.—About this date I consider that the first widening of Beck-street occurred. Commencing at the upper end against St. John's-street, and opposite to the lower end of Heathcote-street, I believe that this roadway extends to Bath-street, or the cholera burying ground, on its eastern side. As opportunities have since allowed, the town has taken advantage of them at different times to increase the width of this now important thoroughfare, and in various instances the road has much benefited.

1880.—This I believe to have been near the date when a commencement was made to form a road of first-class width from the end of Greyfriars-gate, or Wilford-road, by Canal-street and Leenside, to London-road. In most ways which were possible this highway has been added to and improved. Where the Lenton-boulevard ends against Wilford-road this important avenue begins, and, as a fact, is a continuation of the boulevard to London-road.

The last change made in it was towards the latter part of last year, when the end next London-road was considerably increased in width by pulling down the police station, &c.,

at the south-east corner, and otherwise improving the roadway by raising it in some parts, repaving it in the best form, &c.

1883.—I believe it was about this time when the boulevards to the north, the west, and the south of Nottingham were commenced. In this way a most urgent requirement was carried out. Those coming from Lenton and the district can now get into the city without the labour of mounting a long and steep hill (Lenton Sands), which is of much consideration with heavily loaded vehicles. Parts of the town which were to a large extent separated from each other, and by this road fully and conveniently connected. Twenty-five years since anyone going with a conveyance from Mansfield-road, Carrington, must necessarily have taken a rather sinuous course to get to Old Radford or Lenton to what is now necessary.

The need for these communications is proved not only by the immense amount of business conducted upon them, but also by the constant necessity of repairs. The Lenton-boulevard, otherwise the low road from Nottingham to Lenton, was opened on September 18th, 1884, and was, I believe, the first portion to be utilised. The boulevards are now used by electric trams for about three-fifths of their whole length, commencing at Wilford-road, or near the Castle Rock.

OLD NOTTINGHAM

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE. &c

XXVIII.

When commencing this article, I wish to introduce a name which in olden times was well known in Nottingham, and is still applied to a "place" in the town. I am referring to William Halifax, whose official career, according to the Records, Vol. 2, commenced in A.D. 1423-1424, when he was chosen as one of the Bailiffs. This was before the appointment of Sheriffs, the first of whom, according to the Records, held the post in 1448-49 during one of the numerous occasions when Thomas Thurland was Mayor. Unfortunately, while going so far back, we appear to be unable to obtain nearly so many particulars respecting the public men of the town generally, as is the case a century or two later.

At the early dates it is seldom that the town Chamberlains are mentioned, and still rarer to see any reference to the aldermen, who were the town magistrates, and from amongst whom it was imperative that the Mayor should be selected. At a later date when, as was frequently the case, the name of a person was given who had been chosen for that position, there would generally be some idea of the period when he would be appointed Mayor, but this was not the case in the time of William Halifax. I have seen no remark respecting the date when he became an alderman, but he was first elected Mayor for the year 1431-32, and afterwards for 1440-41. The last date is two years previous to the time when Thomas Thurland first filled the post of Chief Magistrate, and respecting whom I wrote in a recent article.

William Halifax lived on the northern side of High-pavement, and I believe it is possible to closely fix the spot where his house stood, though it is now more than four hundred and sixty years since he last became Mayor. In the Records, Vol. II., p. 358, and in the quaint language of the time,

there is an interesting reference to him when giving a list of small pathways or passages, namely:—"A comon lane yat gos fro ye Hey Pament thoro a place of William Halifax to Pylchard Gate."

This gives an excellent idea of the mode by which the part we now term Halifax-place acquired its name, though as a fact in the course of centuries it has been known by other titles also. From what is mentioned in vol. 3, p. 368, A.D. 1531, it would appear as though something was paid by a "guyld" annually as an acknowledgement for the use of a "lane," for we are told "Item of the Wardens of the Trinyte Guyld for a comen lane in Halifax-place on the Highpament, 8d." It certainly appears to be undoubted that the ground attached to the old house of William Halifax extended at least to what is now, and for many years has been, known as Halifax-place.

This title is, however, different, as I have mentioned, to that of former times, and in two ways, even in or after Deering's time, as it is designated "Jack Nuttall's lane" on his map. I think it most probable that there really was a lane at one time from High-pavement to Pilcher-gate, but under the control of William Halifax and some of his successors to the property. I am very glad that the name of "Jack Nuttall's lane" did not long prevail, and hope that Halifax-place as a title is permanently attached to that spot. We know who William Halifax was, but as regards "Jack Nuttall," his was certainly a mere passing notoriety, and all trace or knowledge of him is, I believe, now lost.

From what I can gather after examining various old maps I have no doubt whatever that in William Halifax's time, as regarded the boundaries of his residence, there was a considerable amount of land at the back attached to it, and more than any of his neighbours possessed. At the same time, it is probable that he also had some on the opposite side of High-pavement, in front of his house, to form a vista; of which at one time there were many in the town. To these I propose to

make further reference, though as regards this one, I have often thought that it must have had the most interesting and extensive view of any in Nottingham on a clear day.

There are excellent reasons for supposing that William Halifax's house was not only on the north side of High-pavement, but also opposite to where the County Police Station is, and to the western end of the County Hall, as it was 65 years since or more, when there was no police station, nor had an enlargement of the hall taken place on its western side. But there was a quantity of open land, some or all of which many years afterwards, I am quite aware, belonged to a residence opposite, which, from its connection with Halifax-place and other associations near High-pavement, I have a decided conviction has since occupied the ground of the old house in which William Halifax lived nearly 500 years since.

I am now referring to the old residence (No. 17) with the ground attached at the back, and also at one time to a moderate extent on its eastern limits, together with the "vista" on the opposite side (as explained) of the Pavement, which was the town dwelling of the Fellows family, who have been so well known in Nottingham for nearly 200 years. The first of them of whom we have any record as living in this part was Samuel Fellows, or Ffellow, son of Benjamin Fellows, of the City of London, born 16th August, 1687 (O.S.). His mother died at Derby when on her way from London to Selston, where she had some property, and was buried at St. Werburgh's in that town, November 30th, 1696. By her death Samuel was left an orphan when only nine years of age.

Rumour said that his next-of-kin (? an uncle) squandered the property of which he ought to have become possessed. He appears to have been a person of considerable energy and resource, therefore he apprenticed himself to John Howitt, a framework knitter, of Nottingham, on 5th November, "in the fifth year of the reign of our Sovereign Ann, Queen of England, A.D. 1706." He married Mary

(born 1696), daughter of John Jalland, of Scarrington, in 1717, at Sneinton Church. She was a granddaughter of Thomas Jalland, who married Mary Thoroton (see Car Colston Registers), a sister of Dr. Robert Thoroton, the historian of Nottinghamshire, and died December 21st, 1730. They had three sons and three daughters. In 1729 Samuel Fellows was chosen as one of the town Sheriffs, some time afterwards as an Alderman, and in 1755 he occupied the post of Mayor. From the fact of his being an alderman he was ex-officio, and by charter a magistrate of the town. He occupied the old family mansion (No. 17) on the High-pavement.

It is, I think, probable that it was built by him. On the leaden head of a down-right spout in the front of the house may still be seen the initials F.S.M. (Fellows, Samuel and Mary), and this proves that it must be at least about 175 years since its erection, or the fixing of the spout, as her life ended in 1730. I have seen it stated that Samuel Fellows was one of the coroners 1746-1756, but this is no doubt incorrect, as it was contrary to law or charter for anyone to hold the office while he was an alderman or the Mayor (in 1755), therefore we may say that it did not occur. I have stated before that it was obligatory that the Mayor should be chosen from amongst the aldermen, and when, as sometimes happened, one of the coroners was appointed an alderman, his former position was ipso facto vacated.

Here there is evidence of the need that a sixth volume of the Borough Records should be issued, as by the fifth volume we have many of such interesting particulars explained, though it is to the year 1702 only; but even one additional book would have fully given us in this case all the information desired, and it is much to be hoped that steps may be immediately taken by the City Council to complete this most interesting and useful work, of which none will, I think, be awaited with much greater solicitude than the sixth volume, commencing with the year 1703. Samuel Fellows was a Protestant Dissenter, and a friend of Dr. Doddridge, of Market Harborough. He

became a freeman of the town in 1718. By careful attention to business he acquired property and position. When made Sheriff he was carrying on trade as a manufacturing hosier.

John Fellows, son of Samuel Fellows, was born A.D. 1728. In 1753 he was one of the Sheriffs of the town. I have not seen any mention of the date when he became an Alderman, but he was Mayor in 1775-1782 and 1790. His son John Fellows was born A.D. 1756, and enrolled a freeman in 1777. By 1781 he was one of the Sheriffs.

I will give the names of several others of the family, who also occupied the same post, though I believe that John Fellows, sen., who was Mayor of Nottingham in 1790, was the last of the name to hold that position. Timothy Fellows was a Sheriff of the town in 1788; Elihu Fellows in 1790; John Michael Fellows in 1813; Alfred Fellows in 1817; and James Fellows in 1824.

This is about eighty years since, and I have not observed any later case of a member of that family and name being directly connected with the Corporation, except as Treasurer of the town, which, after being held by two previous members of the family, is now vested in George Fellows, Esq., J.P., of Beeston Fields, Nottinghamshire. In my remembrance, there have been two or three gentlemen living in or near the town of the name of Fellows, though at the present time I doubt that they have been reduced to one only.

Mr. John Fellows the younger, born A.D. 1756, was, with Mr. F. Hart, one of the originators in 1808 of the firm of Messrs. Fellows, Mellor, and Hart, Bankers, of Nottingham, which I may say was, by mutual arrangement (as Hart, Fellows, and Co.), taken over a few years since by the great firm of Lloyd and Company, Limited, Bankers. He resided at the old habitation upon High-avenement, and had a large family. His death occurred in 1823, and he was buried in St. Mary's Churchyard, being succeeded in the banking business by his son, Alfred Thomas Fellows, who was born in 1790.

He also had another son, Charles Fellows,

who became famous from his travels and discoveries in Asia Minor and Lycia, during two excursions in 1838 and 1840. Respecting which he published an excellent account on each occasion. These are profusely illustrated, and to all antiquarians valuable and interesting works. I am glad to possess both, and have frequently read or referred to them. The first volume is entitled, "A Journal written during an Excursion in Asia Minor, by Charles Fellows, 1838."

The second volume is entitled "An Account of Discoveries in Lycia, being a Journal kept during a second Excursion in Asia Minor, by Charles Fellows, 1840." They were published by John Murray, Albemarle-street—the first in 1839 and the latter in 1841. In the greater part of what he saw and describes he was, as regards modern nations, probably the first to visit the localities. As an acknowledgment for his eminent public services he received the honour of knighthood from the Queen.

Alfred Thomas Fellows, who died in October, 1862, had three sons and two daughters. The first son, John, died unmarried; the second, Henry, is a barrister-at-law; and the third son, Mr. George Fellows, was a member of the banking company when it amalgamated with Lloyd and Company, Limited, and is still, as mentioned, Treasurer to the Corporation of Nottingham.

I imagine that the emolument arising from the office is not large, and as an illustration will give an extract from the Records, Vol. V., p. 285, respecting the "Treasurer" in 1654-5. January 18th, at a meeting of the Town Council, the minutes say:—"Treasurer for the town.—Maister Sully is desired, and nominated, to be the Treasurer for the town's monie, and to have the oversight of the Towne's monie, and bonds, by and with the consent, and allowance of Maister Maior, Aldermen, and Councell, and to have fortye shillings by yeare, for his paines." The equivalent in our present money would probably be about fifteen pounds.

I now wish to make a few remarks respecting the old family residence of the Fellows

on High-pavement. It was connected at the back, the same as that of William Halifax, with Halifax-place or lane, and I have seen it stated, that Mr. John Fellows sold the land to the Wesleyan Methodists on which Halifax-place Chapel is built, and it is most probable that they had a right of way to or from their house on High-pavement through Halifax-place.

It appears from an old manuscript book of account, before referred to, that in 1772-73, "Mr. John Fellows (senr.) for a piece of waste ground near Halifax-lane, above William Taylor's (paid) 6d." This, no doubt, was an acknowledgment for a right of passage or an accommodation bit of land. Orange in his history also mentions a sum of 6d. being paid as an acknowledgment in 1838. I may say that the old house of the Fellows family was sold many years since.

It has been stated that a portion of this residence was taken for enlarging the ground on which the Judges' Lodgings was built probably sixty years since, but after looking at the structure I was certain that the assertion was not strictly accurate, and from inquiries I am warranted in saying that, though a part of the frontage on its eastern side, with some buildings upon it, was sold for the purpose mentioned, the body of the house itself was not interfered with.

Respecting the vistas mentioned on the opposite side of the Pavement, they must from the house on a clear day, at such a considerable height above the Meadows, have had an extensive view, probably reaching to Charnwood Forest. On this ground, whilst the family lived in the house, a very valuable jewel was lost, which remained undiscovered for many years, but afterwards considerable changes took place, new buildings upon the land being erected, when, very fortunately, it was found and restored.

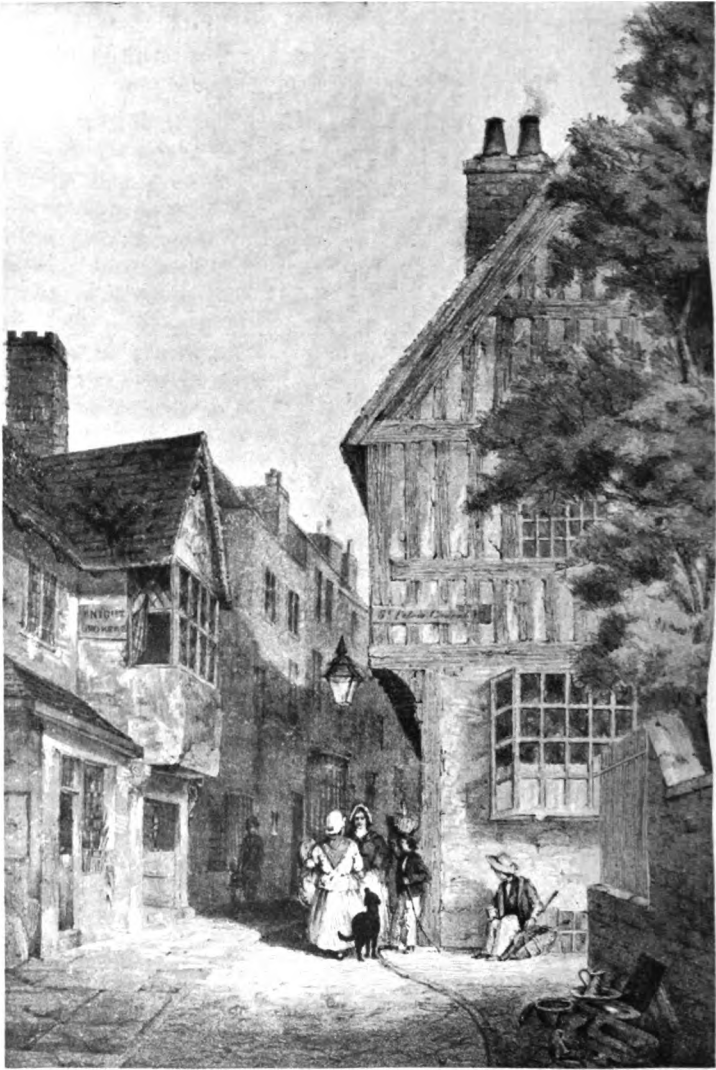
In past times these vistas on the opposite sides of the various streets, were not uncommon with many of the best class of houses in the town. As regards extent of prospect, the preference would be given to those on the upper portion of Short-hill and High-pavement, the views

from these, of course, being generally on their southern sides. I believe that the old residence of the Fellows family was the only one on the north side of that roadway having a vista.

The next to it, or to the residences on High-pavement, in desirability of prospect, would I think be Plumptre House, in Stoney-street, from which, previous to the formation of Plumptre-street, there would be a good view of the Sneinton Hills, and probably of Colwick Hill also. A number of vistas, as regarded prospects, were quite confined to the locality. There was, for a town, one of good size which belonged to the old house of the Sherwins at the north-east corner of Pilcher-gate. It embraced the whole of the ground at one time between Halifax place and St. Mary's-gate, and is by Deering shown to have extended backward further than its width. There was a row of good-sized trees upon it (1745) close to St. Mary's-gate.

Many will still remember several vistas at the upper end of St. James's-street, on its southern side, and most likely from some of the houses there would be at that elevation a view extending towards the Vale of Belvoir and the Castle. During the last twenty or thirty years I have noticed that these open spaces have been gradually built upon. There is one house in Park-street having a vista, which is still intact. The residence is on the south-eastern side, and about twenty years since it was occupied by Mr. Charles James, but is now used as a boarding house.

In 1737 Charles Morley was one of the Sheriffs of Nottingham. He was noted for his manufacture of excellent brown earthenware, of which our late fellow-citizen, Mr. E. M. Kidd, had a number of fine specimens. His works no doubt occupied the site of the present Beck Works of Messrs. G. R. Cowen and Son. He was successful in business, and his residence, which he built, is now used as the People's Hall. The site of Wesley Chapel was once its vista.



The upper part of St. Peter's Gate, 1870,
 looking eastward, with the fine old oak framed house, at the north-east
 corner of St. Peter's Churchyard.

OLD NOTTINGHAM.

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XXIX.

On the 17th of September, 1878, the first section of the Nottingham tramways was opened. This at the time was reckoned a considerable advance and, no doubt, a great convenience to many; but what were they, with the power derived from horses, when compared with the electric trams we now have in use? There are no horses now to pity, on many occasions, when riding up the hills in and near the city; but we ascend them with minds at ease, even when heavily loaded and in the middle of a hot summer day.

1884.—Probably about this date the street on the southern side of St. Peter's Churchyard was widened. Before the formation of Albert-street the whole of that side of St. Peter's-square was entitled "St. Peter's Church-side." Now Hounds-gate no doubt extends to Albert-street, or near to it, and from the east side of Albert-street to Church-gate the old name is still retained.

By an accident I have in an earlier article omitted to notice the changes which have occurred in an old Nottingham roadway, which as regards ancient houses would in living memory probably take the first place. It is St. Peter's-gate, as it was barely forty years since. Mr. Hine, when mentioning the year 1870, says: "Peter-gate widened. Some interesting specimens of ancient timber construction, and enriched plaster panel work in the same were unfortunately demolished."

In and near this part, I have always considered, was to be found the chief and most interesting portion of the ancient wood-framed and overhanging houses in Nottingham. With them we might include a few which some of us remember as once being a short distance away and in Bridlesmith-gate. At the south-east corner was a structure which appeared to a

certain degree an antique one, partially modernised. Respecting it, the idea of some persons is, I believe, that it had at a more modern period been what might be called "levelled down"; that is, when renovating it, the line or outer face of the brickwork was made to be perpendicular with an overhanging part of the house or rooms above.

This system, if really carried out, would, of course, in all cases when close to a street rob it of a portion of its width. We may easily understand, therefore, why avenues in former times were narrow if there was any possibility of effecting changes of such an objectionable character. Peter-gate was narrow in all parts forty years since, or before any enlargement took place, but especially at the upper or eastern end, where it was decidedly too constricted to allow of vehicles passing each other. When enlarging it, the singular old house or shop was pulled down, and the whole of its site given to the street.

About the same time that St. Peter's-gate was widened, the property in Bridlesmith-gate between it and the Poultry was also set back considerably, to allow of more room for the greatly increased traffic from the stations, Albert-street, &c., by Peter-gate to the Poultry, and other portions of the town in that direction. When enlarging the roadway, and especially near the upper end, by far the greater part was taken from the southern side, and in carrying out these changes a very fine specimen of the old style of framed and oak timbered houses, which then formed the corner of St. Peter's Church-walk, was necessarily pulled down.

This was certainly very undesirable, for I believe there was not another of the kind and equal to it either in or near to the town. Necessity, however, knows no law, and it stood on ground needful for the street, and therefore, though much regretted by many, it was demolished. There is some satisfaction, however, in knowing that a short time since an excellent engraving of it, and also of that part of Peter-gate, could be obtained from Messrs. Murray and Co., Victoria-street.

Almost exactly on the opposite side of St. Peter's-gate were two other ancient and very interesting houses, or, rather, as some of us can remember as being shops. The style in which these were built varied considerably with the one first alluded to, for in it the main timbers of the framing were generally and fully in sight, but in the two, this was much less the case. One of them was occupied by Mr. John Knight, a furniture broker, and the other by Robert Townsend, a cutler, and as a dealer in pocket-knives I have a vivid recollection that he was therefore well known at that period to a large number of boys in the town.

There was also Mr. Septimus Townsend in the same way of business in Bridlesmith-gate, whom, I believe, was a relative, and both he and Mr. John Townsend will still be remembered by a number of my old fellow-citizens. While these changes were being carried out the wide open place on the north side of Peter-gate was formed, at the upper corner of which are the County Court offices, and at the lower corner the Midland District Bank, with its entrance in the place.

Beginning near to the bank, but probably lower, to Bridlesmith-gate, the whole of the buildings are comparatively new from the enlargement of the street, and such is also the case on the opposite side of the roadway from St. Peter's Church-walk, the total of the structures being much more costly and elaborate in character. St. Peter's-gate is a very ancient thoroughfare, and reference is made to it in the Borough Records, Vol. I., about A.D. 1285, or approximately 620 years since.

In the enrolment of a grant, or otherwise a sale of property, St. Peter's-gate is referred to as being "in the Lorimers-street (an ancient name and often used for what we now call Bridlesmith-gate), which moiety is the one nearest to the lane leading to the Church of St. Peter." Our ancestors would not be bound in matters of orthography nor in their writings to carry out the principle of calling a spade a spade, for a thoroughfare with them might be and was at various times (vide records) termed

a street, a gate, or a lane, and hence we here have Peter-lane.

There is evidence that Bridlesmith-gate, or, as then called, Bridilsmethisgate, was the name of that roadway in 1304, and probably also about A.D. 1285, or nineteen years earlier, when those writing call it Lorimers-street. There is no doubt that each name has its origin from the same occupation, for in Vol. I., p. 448, we are told that "Lorimerius (from the Latin) (is) a Lorimer, a maker of bits, bridles, &c." "Bridlesmith" in English would convey a similar meaning. Would that be a sufficient reason with our ancestors for making what to us is a singular and unnecessary substitution?

Respecting the lower part of St. Peter's-gate, nothing was taken from its northern side, and for one reason the road was wider at that part, though still considerably less than what was needed, and the line of traffic was, and is, much more to and from Albert-street than in any other direction, therefore a good "slice" was taken from the north side of St. Peter's Churchyard, and the road was made to its present very desirable width. The remains of many who had been buried in the part appropriated for the street were properly and carefully moved to the Church Cemetery, at the top of Mansfield-road, and then reinterred.

1893.—Near this date Wheeler-gate was materially widened, but especially at the lower part, where it was not much, if any, more than eight yards in breadth. It had for many years been most inconveniently contracted, which rendered it impossible by that avenue to connect the horse trams of the southern part of Nottingham with those running towards the north or west. The ground acquired for enlargement was all taken from the north-eastern side of the street. The buildings afterwards erected were much more imposing and otherwise superior in character. Under present circumstances, and with electric trams, the Trent Bridge and Bulwell, with Radford, Basford, Sherwood, &c., are directly connected.

1893 (March 28th).—The Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire (Great Central) Rail-

way Bill, allowing of its extension to London, received the Royal Assent. The sanction given to this undertaking gave at the time much satisfaction locally, and has caused us to have a large and convenient station in the centre of the city.

1894 (November 22nd).—On this date electric lights were first used in the Market-place, which for a short period caused a considerable amount of curiosity.

In a recent article "Beck-lane" was referred to; but it is the turn of one in the vicinity of St. Peter's-gate, or abutting it, with a similar sounding designation, and "Peck-lane" will be brought under consideration. This was, and still is, a narrow passage, and much the same in width as ancient Queen-street (Fletcher-gate, &c., to Carlton-street) of 55 years since and more, though I believe Peck-lane to be three times its length, but its importance was not magnified by being termed a "street," for almost from its earliest mention it appears to have been called a "lane."

I wish to premise that what we entitle "The Market-place" was, until about 200 years since (and probably rather less), called "The Saturday Market." In a previous article I have fully described Week-day Cross, as being where the Market was held on other days in the week. Peck-lane is an ancient pathway, and it has retained the old name. I first find it mentioned in Vol. 1 of the Records, p. 437, A.D. 1336, when reference is made to "a messuage on the north side of St. Peter's Church, next to a lane ("Venella"), which leads from the said church into the Saturday Market."

In Vol. 2, p. 358, A.D. 1436, we have in the quaint language of the period another reference to it and description as "A comon lane yat gos fro ye Tymberhill agayns ye sawe pytte thoro (through or between) ye tenandres of John Plumtre and Richard Watton, at ye norht end, and thoro Richard Dalbe tenandre, at ye sothe end." The mention of a sawpit on that side of the Market-place greatly assists, if it was needed, in explaining why that part should be designated "Timberhill," though it would be

very difficult in these days to find a spot in the locality where it would be safe to make or excavate such a hole as would be necessary for a sawpit.

John Plumtre, who first built the Hospital, in what is now termed Plumtre-square, was Mayor of Nottingham on several occasions, one of them being for the year 1408-9. It will be noticed above that he owned property in Peck-lane. Most certainly in his time he was a noted man in the town, and of considerable influence, which may lessen the surprise of some that for many years Peck-lane, as a title, was superseded by "Plumtre-lane." In Vol. 2, p. 445, A.D. 1414, he is mentioned, and also "a tenement at the corner of 'Plumtre-lane,' which tenement extends in length 40 feet from the said corner (N.W.) towards Saint Peter's Church on the south, and in breadth 20 feet upon the Tymbur-row," and this is about the size of the present shop.

Plumtre-lane is mentioned again in 1486, when three loads of sand were used in it, but there is good reason for supposing that it was entirely unpaved at that date, and without doubt at all times plenty of sand or dirt would get into the houses under such circumstances. After that time the old name of Peck-lane appears to have been revived, for in 1504 there is an item in the accounts that twopence was paid "to William Porritt for mending of a hole at Peck-lane."

On two occasions in 1572 it is mentioned that the Rowell, or open drain, at Peck-lane end (near St. Peter's Church) needed repairs. In 1620 the Mickletorn Jury report, and say, "We present the pavement agaynst the Peck-lane end (no doubt near St. Peter's Church) to be verie noysom to cole carriages and other drawghtes, that the heighte and steapness of the hill dothe stalle the drawghtes they cannot passe." I have no doubt that in those times there would be very few, if any, shops found in Peck-lane, for there is evidence formerly that the private houses in the Saturday Market, or Market-place, exceeded the number of shops therein.

In Article 29, p. 173, I give some account of

Parliament-street (in the centre of Lower Parliament-street), and also of its being pulled down in 1884. After the great changes necessitated in the past, caused by the Great Central Railway running through N Nottingham, and going under that street, and also what was required by electric tram lines afterwards using that roadway, the whole of the buildings on the northern side of Parliament-street, from the bridge over the railway to Glasshouse-street, were demolished, and the frontage generally taken back several yards. This work was carried out in or about the year 1902.

Much about that time, or perhaps during the year previous, the House of Correction, near the eastern end of Parliament-street, was pulled down, and the ground entirely cleared of buildings. Under these circumstances, advantage was taken of the site being vacant to form a wide and excellent street, which has, I believe, been named Edward Seventh-street, and passes anglewise across the ground, until its lower end meets with St. Ann's-road, Bath-street, and Beck-street. By this arrangement an easy mode of access by wide thoroughfares is obtained from various parts of the city with that district, not only for ordinary traffic, but also for the running of electric tram-cars.

1888.—It was probably near this time when a broadening of Pilcher-gate occurred at its upper and lower ends. At the first part, some land, formerly belonging to the old town house of the Sherwins, at its north-east corner, which had been enclosed with an iron fence, was added to the street, and it greatly benefited thereby, though there was not much, if any, more than three to four yards. A warehouse, which has been erected since that date, has, I believe, also been set back to the line of the old house. At the lower end, the north-west corner, for a short distance up, has been set back several yards, and it allows ample room for vehicles to turn round.

1885.—It was very likely near this date when some widening occurred in connection with Sneinton-street, and since then, as opportunity allowed, other portions have been added. The Old Leather Bottle Inn was owned by the

Corporation, and the house and premises connected therewith formed a part of one side of the street, and much lessened the difficulty of enlarging it.

This street at its south-eastern end abutted upon Old Glasshouse-lane, at its south-western end, and the existence of this thoroughfare, by that name, even in the latter half of last century, judging by what they have told us, must have been unknown to one or both of the Editors of the Records. See Vol. 5, p. 448, published A.D. 1900, where it is said: "Glasshouse-lane—Glasshouse-street." This has reference to an occurrence A.D. 1689 in Glasshouse-lane, whereas 131 years later—or in 1820—at an election, Glasshouse-street had not been formed sufficiently long to have one voter in it, and, therefore, it is comparatively a modern street.

It would be utterly wrong to lay the blame upon the Editors for this mis-statement, as in giving a similar name to two thoroughfares in the town it was, on the part of the imbeciles of the Council at that date, no better than wilfully setting a trap for them and others in the future to fall in.

1888.—About this period I believe a commencement was made to demolish a considerable number of old buildings, between Long-row (near the Exchange corner) and Parliament-street. This no doubt was much needed, and an excellent improvement, which allowed of the present Y-shaped communication being made between the Market-place and Parliament-street. The thoroughfare was formally opened on July 22, 1892.

The lower part of King-street, on Long-row, is of good width, and a large portion of the space was once filled up by two old shops, and a passage sufficiently wide for vehicles to go through. I am very glad to possess a small engraving of these shops and the passage. There was certainly much that is interesting attaching to them. As regards the premises, though not of the oldest kind, they were still of an ancient style, and wood entered largely into their construction. They were four stories high, and two of the upper stories overhung, but not so much as many other old houses.

In mentioning wooden pillars which at one time carried the fronts of buildings, I might have included five in this case; also some on the front of the Old Bear, once at the west end of Long-row, and several in the front of a portion of the Flying Horse Hotel, in the Poultry, and on Cheapside. The little old engraving goes back probably to at least 1840. Of the two shops, one was double-fronted, and this was the "Mercury" Office, very shortly after Mr. Richard Allen had succeeded Mr. Samuel Bennett, the previous proprietor, whom I remember, though he was then deceased. This shop was on the west of the premises, and small squares of glass are shown in the shop windows.

In the centre part is the passage mentioned, and through it was the road to Crown-yard, in which was the noted old hostelry called The Crown, to which in the Records, Vol. 2, p. 391, reference is made as early as A.D. 1483, or 421 years since. Over the passage, on the front, a sign, with the Crown on it, is shown, respecting the old inn. The single-fronted shop was on the east side of the premises, and from the time of my earliest recollection occupied by Mr. Joshua Driver, hairdresser, &c. It is probable that he continued there afterwards for no less than 25 years.

OLD NOTTINGHAM.

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XXX.

In article 56 I refer to a Racecourse which in length much exceeded others made afterwards, and occupied the whole of the space between Mansfield-road and Alfreton-road, near to Bobber's Mill, reporting on its shape, &c., There cannot be any doubt that this course was the first belonging to the town.

The earliest notice of it will be found in the Records, Vol. 5, p. 364, at a meeting of the Town Council, held June 10, 1690, when it was resolved:—"Whereas, the gentlemen in the country are desirous that this Corporation would raise moneys to purchase a peice of Plate, to be run for at the horse race, as formerly there hath been; and whereas Master Christopher Renolds hath in his hands Four pounds Two shillings, that was left of a former horse-race; therefore, this House being willing to gratifie the said gentlemen in their request, do consent that if Master Rennolds will bring in his moneys there should care be taken for a peice of plate."

This is 214 years since, but the moneys referred to had been left over from a former race; therefore, in 1690, races had probably been run for a number of years previously. From what I have recently observed this race-course was in use until 1796, when another but shorter one was formed, which was much the shape of the figure 8.

Great complaints appear to have been made against it by visitors, as they were unable to obtain a good view of the horses when running, and about 1813 the course was again altered to what may still be seen on the Forest, but which has been disused since 1891, the new racecourse at Colwick having been opened on August 19, 1892.

It will to many be interesting to note that the Town Council, at their meeting on June 16, 1690, ordered "That the Chamberlyns doe

pay five pounds towards a plate to be run for upon Nottingham and Basford Lings at the next horse race." As before remarked, "Nottingham Lings" of those days is partly represented by the present but much curtailed Nottingham Forest, and the fact of the racecourse being on "The Lings" is ample proof that they were not in Lark Dale, as asserted.

On June 13, 1700, the Town Council again "Ordered that this Corporacion do allow five pounds towards buying a Plate or Plates, to be run for upon Nottingham Course, as is usual." According to the particulars here given, it is probable that, when horse-racing ceased on the Forest in 1891, they had been run there approximately for 220 years.

I now desire to refer in various instances to the rare old map previously mentioned, with the expectation of permanently fixing certain localities which previously were doubtful. Deering, on page 86, mentions several springs belonging to Nottingham, one of which was "south of the River Leen, not far from the Engine House." And continuing he says:—"There are besides this . . . two other springs on the north side of the town, the one in the close called the 'Boycroft,' and the other in the next close beyond it. This last lies somewhat lower, and never fails, whilst the first-mentioned is sometimes dry in summer."

It is respecting Boycroft that I wish to make some remarks. Excepting what Deering mentions, which is very little, there appears from the Borough Records to be no knowledge regarding its position. It is noticed in three volumes, but the Editors only tell us (from Deering) that it was "on the north side of the town." I must here remark that the old map belongs to pre-Inclosures times, and as in most cases what will be brought under notice is amongst fields, where the old landmarks are few or uncertain as guides to anyone in present times, when so much ground is covered with houses and streets, I must in some cases claim a little consideration.

"Boycroft" was a close or field on the left or western side of the road when going to St. Ann's Well, and in shape almost a triangle.

I believe it to have been a short distance within what was formerly called Wood-lane, and now "The Wells-road," but not far from the bottom of the way which leads up to the Coppice Asylum, though this, of course, did not exist when the map was issued. It appears to be a good sized field, yet rather peculiar in shape, but the next which is mentioned is much squarer. Near to the south-eastern side of these two fields the little rivulet ran called "The Beck."

"Toad Hill" is also noticed, which at the top is occupied by a reservoir connected with the water supply of the city, and now known as St. Ann's Hill. It may be reached by Elm-avenue, Mapperley-road, and Robin Hood-chase. In my younger days I generally heard it entitled "Toadhole Hill." Writing in 1882 the Editor of the Records, Vol. 1, p. 439, in reference to "Todeholes," says:—"St. Ann's Hill, near Mapperley-road, was known as Toad hole Hill within the present century." This I consider proves that he was not properly provided with the necessary references and documents to guide him when writing, as it was the common name for the hill until about 45 to 50 years since, when it was changed to St. Ann's Hill.

In Article 39 I mention the Gallows, and describe various matters connected with a procession to the place of execution. The last carried out at the old place near the top of Mansfield-road was on April 2, 1827, or 77 years since. The culprit was a man named William Wells, condemned for highway robbery. Respecting the spot occupied by the Gallows, I am very glad to say that in locating it I have been assisted by a gentleman who is one of our most venerable fellow-citizens, for he dates back to 1813, and during whose remembrance of more than 80 years several other executions took place previous to 1827 on Gallows' Hill, for in those days death was the penalty attaching to many crimes, and few years passed without one or more executions, although the population was less than half its present number.

I wish to acknowledge my indebtedness to

another aged fellow-citizen, who, though about three years younger than the gentleman just referred to, can also remember the processions of persons condemned to suffer capital punishment. It should not be forgotten that in former times criminals belonging to the county, as well as the town, were hung upon the Nottingham Gallows. The course taken to the place of execution from the County Hall, High-pavement, and the Town Hall, Weekday-cross, was by way of Bridlesmith-gate, High-street, Clumber-street, Milton-street, and Mansfield-road to Gallows' Hill.

From information given, the Gallows appears to have been erected on the level ground which now forms the upper portion of the Church Cemetery, and it was probably 100 yards or rather more from Mansfield-road. At the date under consideration the old road on the top of the Forest (Forest side) was for a distance from Mansfield-road included in what is now the Church Cemetery, and also a portion of a field near to the south of the Forest as then formed. Of this some particulars are given in Article 33.

Judging by the large old official map of the borough, which is set out to scale, and measuring from the present Forest-road, I consider it probable that, going northwards, the site of the Gallows was about 100 yards from the southern boundary of the cemetery, and probably rather more from Mansfield-road, according to the contour of the ground, as depicted upon the official map. There is much likelihood that the Gallows was erected near to where the last Windmill on that side of the Forest then stood or was afterwards constructed.

It is certainly proper to state that I have seen two or more old maps on which the ground now covered by St. Andrew's Church, with Mapperley-road to Cranmer-street, and southwards approaching Elm-avenue, is entitled "Gallows' Hill." The upper part of the ground is no doubt higher than any portion of the Church Cemetery, and I have thought that this might possibly be the original place or locality on which the Gallows stood a few centuries

back, and perhaps afterwards removed to the spot above designated.

In olden times there was a hamlet called Whiston on the top of Mansfield-road, respecting which most of the particulars or knowledge appear to be lost. Reference is made to it in the Records, Vol. 1, p. 441, nearly 700 years since—namely, in A.D. 1217 and 1227. From indifference on the part of our ancestors it was frequently called "Whetston," especially in later times, when applied to places or ground in the locality.

The road out of the town in that direction (Mansfield-road) was in olden times frequently termed "Whiston-gate." In A.D. 1417 there is reference to "the King's highway leading from the "Cowbarre" (Cow-lane—Clumber-street) to the Gallows of Whiston." This I consider favours the idea of the hamlet being quite as much or more to the west of Mansfield-road than to the east, and for the supposition I propose to give a reason in my next communication, assisted by the rare old maps.

In Article No. 56, with the valuable aid of the fine old map of the town, respecting which mention is then first made, I consider that I fully prove the old "Lyngdalefeld," which is first referred to in the Borough Records, A.D. 1362, to be the more modern "Bowling Alley Field" (a large open piece of ground), which many of the older inhabitants of the city, including myself, will still remember when going through it to the Forest. With help obtainable from the same source, I shall endeavour to locate another interesting old spot, and connect it with a title used in comparatively recent times.

In the Borough Records, Vol. 4, p. 445, we are told, in reference to Whetston (or Whiston) Wong, &c., that the word "wong" is frequently treated as a synonym of 'furlong' in the deeds of the period of this present volume. 'furlong' meaning a number of ridges of arable land all ploughed in one direction, the length of the furlong varying with the length of the plough drive, and its width depending upon the number of ridges of which it consisted."

On the same page, when somewhat fixing the place, we are told that A.D. 1587 "(the) furlong or wong, called Whetston Wong (is) land in the Sandye Field on the west of the road leading to the Hye Crosse." The name is derived "from Whiston, a forgotten hamlet."

In former times the whole of what we now know as Sherwood-street, was termed Shaws-lane, or road, and even early last century there were practically no houses in it, except perhaps one close to each corner, adjoining Parliament-street. I have looked through the list of those who voted at the election in 1806, and only noticed one, who said that he resided in Shaws-lane. From these particulars it will be seen that the whole of the land to the east and the west of the lane was grass or unbuilt upon.

In the upper portion of the lane, commencing at Babington-street, and continuing to the top, where it once adjoined or abutted upon the Lings, or as now called the Forest, the large old official map of 1829 shows that there were at one time seven fields on the western side, and the rare old map, as a title applicable to them all, says, "Furlong, butting to Shaws-lane-road." Whetston or Whiston Wong (furlong), in Vol. 4, p. 445, is stated to be "on the west of the road leading to the Hye Cross," and, therefore, according to that statement, there can be little, if any, doubt whatever (as there were no houses near) that Shaws-lane Furlong (the modern name), and Whetston, otherwise Whiston Wong or Furlong (the old name), are really the same place or piece of land, for the same description applies to each.

If further proof be necessary, it will be found in the fact, as shown by the rare map of the town, that the High Cross Leys were to the east of Mansfield-road, commencing in a part now called Huntingdon-street, a little higher than the city schools, and reaching close to where Elm-avenue is formed. From this I consider that the probabilities are in favour of the hamlet of Whiston being on the west side of Mansfield-road, at the top.

In my younger days, "The Meadow Plats" were frequently noticed in ordinary conversa-

tion when referring to a portion of the town, which as regards myself and many others, there would certainly have been much difficulty in fully describing or locating, for it might have been termed "an unknown quantity." I could have walked into the part bearing that name, but had no knowledge where it commenced or ended.

This state of doubt was, however, concluded when I obtained the rare old map. Seven fields are shown, and entitled "Meadow Plat Closes." Six of them appear to be of a good size. On the southern or town side, I have no doubt that Platt-street, and most probably a portion, if not all, of Cross-street, &c., were part of the Meadow Plats at one time, and north-eastwards they reached close to where Alfred-street South is now formed, and to Long Hedge-lane. At the south-east they were bounded by Southwell-road, and on the north-west they would nearly, if not quite, reach to the back of the Cholera, or Fox's burying ground.

In recent times I have thought that the old title of "Meadow Plats" was dying out, as I have heard it used far less frequently than in former times, though as a reminder of the old appellation we still have "Platt-street." I have observed no mention of this section of the town lands in the Borough Records under the name of "Meadow Plats."

When examining this old map I have been somewhat surprised at the frequency with which "Brunt's Charity" is entered in connection with land, &c., near Nottingham, and which, in numerous instances, is at this date occupied by buildings. There must be nearly twenty occasions. It is, I believe, from this source that the Mansfield Grammar School is mainly sustained, though it is possible that property in other districts may also belong to the Charity.

Amongst its possessions in the city is a very fine and valuable block of buildings on the Long-row, reaching through to Parliament-street, the land of which (leased), I have good reason to believe, all belongs to that Charity, and no doubt realises a very considerable

income. It is "The Black Boy" Hotel, with the whole yard, stables, rooms, &c. And also at least one shop on each side of the entrance on the Long-row.

In "The Records," Vol. 4, p. 397 (A.D. 1559), "Goldes Wonge" is referred to, though on p. 437 it is called Goldeswonge, and "The name is recorded in Goldswong-terrace in Cranmer-street." This appears to be all that the Editor could tell us. The old map, however, to a large extent, explains and fixes the locality, mentioning "Goldswong Closes." These would be near to Woodborough-road where it is crossed from Robin Hood's-chase when going to the top of St. Ann's-hill or to the reservoir. Next to the north-east end of these closes was a large enclosure, having the singular title of "Fuzball field."

In the same volume, p. 273, 1605, "Gorsey-close" is first brought under notice, when various portions of ground were selected or set apart, for the use of each of the Aldermen. It appears to have been of a good size, and in length quite double its width. A.D. 1606, Vol. 4, p. 281, there is a singular reference to it in the minutes of the Council, when we are told "Gorsey close to go to 2 att 50s. rent, with reservacion for the towne to use parte of ytt to build on, in any tyme of visitacion (plague), and to except the barne therein standinge, to the use of the towne."

The buildings would be for cabins for the use of those stricken by pestilence, and it is very satisfactory to have a knowledge of the spot. The "2 att 50s." was the price to be paid by those (12 Burgesses) to whom the field had been allotted, it being of itself more than a fair share of land for each. On p. 437, Vol. 4, the Editor says:—"Gorsey Close . . . Between Mapperley-road and Woodborough-road, now partly built upon." Considering his apparent short supply of old maps and useful documents, this was a reasonable "guess," but it may be much improved by explanation.

At its south-eastern end there was at one time a field of but moderate width, separating it from Freeschool-lane. It certainly was not between Mapperley-road and Woodborough-

road, for much the greater portion, and probably all of it, was on the south-eastern side of what is now Woodborough-road; but at that time, and in that part, it was a mere track or footpath only. The north-eastern end of the field appears to have reached close to the lower part of the last hill when going up to Mapperley Plains, and was on the right hand. This and other names will be familiar with many of my older fellow-citizens, though now seldom mentioned, and cause thoughts of the past to float before the mind.

The next to be noticed are the Trough Closes. They are first referred to in the Records, Vol. 2, p. 185, A.D. 1446. In Vol. 4, p. 311, October 26, 1612, there is reference to a very undesirable circumstance connected with one of them as follows:—"Maister John Parker to have 6s. of the ould Chamberlaynes, to be allowed unto him, for his losse receaved these last yeares, in his Trough Close, by the visited people." In this case cabins had been built in the field for those belonging to the town who had been stricken by the plague (visited).

On p. 444 the Editor says, "Deering mentions a Trough Close, near Mapperley Hill." There were two closes—namely, the Upper Trough Close and the Nether or Lower Trough Close—which are both shown upon the old and rare map. They were to the west of and adjoined the Hungerhill Closes, and with but one field between them and Gorsey Close. The Upper Close was not more than half the size of the Nether or Lower Trough Close.

OLD NOTTINGHAM.

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XXXI.

I desire to commence this article by making a short but further reference to the Nottingham Post Office, and those directly connected with it. As intimated in Article No. 44, two persons managed to carry on the postal business A.D. 1799. Thirty-three years later, or in 1832, five persons were needed for the work; this, to a certain extent, may be accounted for by increased business and the growth of the town. Some of us can remember circumstances which occurred as early, or even earlier than that date.

In Article No. 47, January 15, 1904, I notice various matters relating to the office in more recent times, and the desirability for further information respecting the number of persons at present employed, for the purpose of comparison. I am very glad to say that within a short time, and as expressly wished, the knowledge was obtained. The five persons mentioned in 1832 included the Post Master, the office clerk, and three letter-carriers.

I will now give an account of the various persons forming the "staff" of the Nottingham Post Office at the beginning of the year 1904, not including the Postmaster, namely:—One chief clerk, two superintendents (postal and telegraphic), 10 assistant-superintendents, 15 clerks, 177 male sorting clerks and telegraphists, one female supervisor, 34 female sorting clerks, 21 paid learners, and 12 telephone operators. This constitutes the indoor staff. The outdoor staff includes:—One inspector-in-charge, one inspector proper, three assistants, 250 regular postmen, 30 auxiliary postmen, one inspector of telegraph messengers, one assistant-inspector, 11 indoor messengers, 59 outdoor messengers (with 15 cycles), eight night telegraph messengers (adults), and 23 cleaners. Here is a grand total of 661 persons, all employed at the head office.

This is an astounding change in my time, and 132 times as many as in 1832, and 320 times the number employed in 1799. Though it must not be forgotten that in the two last cases it was during the time of dear letters, and also comparatively when Nottingham was a small town, whilst in the first instance it applies to a large city, when the letters are carried cheaply. Yet this is far from completing what may be said respecting the "revolution" in our postal arrangements, and persons employed during the time of many who are still living to see it.

We have in the city, I may say, some scores of sub-post offices, in addition to what has been referred to, where a large amount of business is transacted in telegrams, parcels, postal orders, registered letters &c., &c., which, if not carried out there, would necessitate the employment of many additional persons at the Chief Office.

Sixty years since there were no branch post offices whatever spread about the town, such as those which are now so very convenient, and therefore it is proper to include all persons engaged in them, and we may, I doubt not, truthfully assert that the total number employed in the town in post office work is approaching 800. We have at this date very great facilities for carrying out all postal business.

Most people live within a short distance of a pillar box and but a moderate space from a post office, though as regards full half of the people they do not remember the time when other but inconvenient arrangements prevailed. For a number of years in my recollection there was but one Post Office in the town; therefore, many persons were compelled to go long distances with letters. I have often walked a mile to get to the letter box, and some would be obliged to go still further to reach it.

In 1789 the vane at the top of St. Peter's Church spire, which was 33 inches in length, had become unsafe; it was fixed there in 1735. The parish officers agreed with a Kegworth man, named Robert Wootton, to take it down, and carry out the desired repairs. He acted

in a most unnecessarily venturesome manner on occasions during the time he was engaged, but completed the work, reaching the top by ladders fastened to the spire.

In 1825 a part of the weathercock fell upon the leaded roof of the church, and some in authority being convinced that repairs must speedily be carried out, again turned their thoughts towards Kegworth as the home of those who had previously attended to such business. This time, however, the work devolved upon Mr. Philip Wootton, whose father was responsible for the repairs in 1789. A few hours after commencing he brought the weathercock down, which was 29 inches in its extreme length, and made of copper. This was repaired and refixed, and also a ball of gilt copper, 40 inches in circumference.

I wish now to make a short digression for the purpose of comparing the "old" spire of St. Peter's Church with some in other places. No doubt many persons, as well as myself, have noticed, when away from Nottingham, that the spires to a few churches are, at the eight angles, nicely ornamented every few feet with "croquets" or small worked projections. One that specially comes to my mind is Bottesford Church, which is about 17 miles away on the road to Grantham.

There is also an excellent sample in St. George's Church at Leicester, and I have seen them "occasionally" in other directions when out, as Grantham, Stamford, &c., but the places "are few and far between," for to work them out of the solid stone would be costly, but very effective, though probably in many cases the charge for them would be more than could be afforded by those responsible for the work.

It may to many appear almost incredible, but it is a fact, that until 1825, or during the life of a number who are still remaining with us in the city, St. Peter's Church spire was finely ornamented with croquets at the angles. This is shown to be the case on various old engravings of it, and in other views connected with the town, of which I have several, where they are plainly visible. A portion of the

work at the spire consisted in repointing the joints of the stonework after refixing the weathercock, and it was when suspended by a rope, running in a pulley at the top of the ladders, that Wootton carried out this part of the repairs, and also cut off the crockets.

It has been said that they were sawn off, but I consider it to be doubtful, for when suspended in the air, as mentioned, it would be a troublesome matter to saw gritty stone. Mr. T. O. Hine says:—"The crockets which ornamented the spire were sawn off. . . . This wanton waste was committed by a man named Wootton, who 'repaired' the spire." I certainly agree with some part of what Mr. Hine says, but not thoroughly so, for I should have rejoiced to have had the names given by Mr. Hine of those who ordered or allowed Wootton to disfigure the church so grossly and recklessly that they might have been "pilloried."

It was sanctioning what appears to be utterly incomprehensible and scandalous, for it completely defaced the spire. Wootton personally was without authority, and merely an instrument to carry out certain orders. The question is whether the rector and churchwardens, or other Church authorities, can clear themselves of the responsibility. Who paid Wootton? It might probably be guessed.

In Article No. 36 I noticed Richard Arkwright, the elder and younger, and in reference to the latter I wish to make some further remarks, respecting the sum of one million pounds sterling which he bequeathed to Sir W. Wigram. When I wrote the article about seven months since, in consequence of the money being left to the son-in-law, I imagined that Sir Richard Arkwright's daughter was dead, but I have been positively assured that she was alive both then and for some years after, which thoroughly alters the case, and in a most costly manner.

The money really lost to Sir W. Wigram, from want of thought or knowledge, was ninety thousand pounds, which was of itself a handsome fortune. If the legacy had been left to a son or daughter, the Government duty

payable upon it would have been one per cent. only, or ten thousand pounds, whereas to the son-in-law, who legally speaking was no relation to Sir Richard Arkwright, the duty was ten per cent., or one hundred thousand pounds, which would certainly have to be paid, and included in the revenue.

It is said by some that Sir Richard Arkwright made his own will. If this be correct, the lawyers would no doubt say, and truthfully, that he was most unwise in so doing, and there would be ample cause. Yet, as compared with his enormous wealth, the loss would be scarcely felt, for, besides about seven millions in personal property or money, he had very considerable landed estates.

In addition to the Burgesses or Freemen of Nottingham, there was in former times, and until 1845, another class of people, having rights of pasturage in the fields during "Lammas time," which was from the 14th of August in each year, until the same date in November following. It is probable that at the present time few persons know of this fact. Those having the right referred to, owned in the town certain houses or pieces of land termed "Toftsteads."

Lloyd's Encyclopædic Dictionary tells us that a toft is "An enclosed piece of land near a house, . . . a messuage, or rather a place where a messuage has stood, but is decayed; a house and homestead. As 'homestead' implies the place of the home, so also 'toftstead' means the place of the toft." Blackner, p. 31, tells us that, "according to the practice of common law, every freehold house is a toftstead, which has paid 'scot and lot' for sixty years; or one which stands on the site of another, that has paid that length of time; or, in fact, a succession of houses, standing on the same spot, which have conjointly thus paid. Hence those non-burgess housekeepers have a right from custom to turn into the fields, who occupy houses thus circumstanced, within the liberties of the town."

We are then informed, on pp. 30-31, that "In 1807 some burgesses determined to dispute the claim of the non-burgess housekeepers,

. . . Samuel Milner and others impounded cattle belonging to a person named Glover, who . . . brought an action against Milner, which was tried in the Shirehall, before Baron Thomson and a special jury, on 5 August, 1808, and the burgesses lost the trial; with this proviso, however, that no non-burgess housekeeper, except those that reside in what are called 'toftsteads,' should have the right of turning into these fields."

Going back fully sixty years, I may say that I knew two persons who were "toftmen," that is, according to Lloyd's Dictionary, "The owners or possessors of a house and homestead possessing this right." One was Mr. James Horrocks, of "The Black Bull," Chapel-bar, and it was derivable from that house and ground, which went through to Parliament-street then, if not now. The other was Mr. John Minnitt, for many years a tallow chandler in the town, who derived his right from the ownership of a house and premises in Parliament-street, on which the offices, work and storerooms now belonging to Messrs. Abbott, bookbinders, &c., have since been erected. I am quite aware that there were many others in the town possessing the same right, but a number of them would be strangers.

When the inclosure of the common lands of the town took place (June 30, 1845), the owners of Toftsteads were deprived of their right of pasturage for three head of cattle or twelve sheep during three months in the year, and therefore claimed compensation, which was conceded; and in various parts of the town small portions of land were allotted to them by the Commissioners of the Inclosure, which generally would be of sufficient size to hold three or four moderate-sized houses. I well remember that there were a number of such parcels of land in or near to the top of Raleigh-street, and also of Portland-road, Nottingham, some of which faced towards Alfretton-road.

Mr. Minnitt sold the ground allotted to him; but as regards Mr. Horrocks, he had in the meantime died and "The Black Bull" was afterwards owned by the late Mr. Ben. Hawkrige, who sold his allotment. Respecting Mr.

Hawkridge, I think it should be mentioned that about this period, or probably quite fifty years since, he was one amongst a few in various parts of the country who, without being articled or having gone through the ordinary and preparatory training, were by Act of Parliament entitled or authorised to call themselves solicitors.

At the time mentioned a considerable change was made regarding the Probate Offices or Courts, which were severed from the Ecclesiastical Courts or Jurisdiction, and when doing this various positions were abolished, one of which was held by Mr. Ben. Hawkridge, and in depriving him of it he was by law "transformed" into a solicitor. There is, however, no "royal road to knowledge," and, therefore, we need not be surprised if he took a "full-blown solicitor" into partnership.

I propose now to bring under consideration another old Nottingham street—namely, what is by us designated Low-pavement—and also to notice Broad-marsh. In the Borough Records, Vol. 1, p. 405, A.D. 1348, reference is made to "a messuage in the high street leading from the Daily Market (Weekday Cross) to the King's Castle." This might probably be Low-pavement, or as generally termed at that date "Nether-pavement" or "pament." On pp. 303 and 315 it is entitled "Nether-pament," A.D. 1396. Heighth-pament being one of the old terms used for High-pavement, and "Midil-pament" speaks for itself.

In Vol. 3, p. 27, A.D. 1494, the following item is copied from the Chamberlain's accounts:—"For carriage of a load of sand from the Maire's (Mayor's) to the Lawe Pament." Twenty years later, however, we get back again to the old name, when there is reference to "a curtilage . . . called 'le Tayntre Yerd in le (the) Netherpament,' lying next 'le Vawte lane' (Drury-hill) and a garden." We are told in the Glossary that "A tenter (is) a frame for stretching cloth."

In Vol. 4, 1578, "Lowe-pamente" is mentioned, and on p. 282, 1607, the Mickletorn Jury say:—"We present yat the stepping-stones near James Perrie's door over the wayn

(waggon) way from Castle Gatt to the Loo Pavement be mendid." In a few years it was "Lowe-pavement," and, except that on an occasion the first word was spelled "Loe," it gained its modern name.

In Vol. 1, A.D. 1395 and 1396, "Brodde-merche" is noticed. It was also at times given the Latin title of "Magnus Mariscus," or "The Great Marsh," which no doubt was respecting its width, as Narrow-marsh is much the longest. It was also in the course of time called Brodmershe, Brodmarche, Brode Merssh, Brodemarshe until the present title of Broad-marsh was thoroughly accepted.

In the memory of many persons still living in the city, a large portion of the ground on the south side of Broad-marsh was unbuilt upon, and there was no Carrington-street, the roads leading out of the town in that part being chiefly by Broad and Narrow-marsh and, in a lesser degree, by Greyfriar-gate.

I now wish to make some remarks respecting the house on the south side of Low-pavement, towards the top, and standing back, which was probably erected about 170 years since by Mr. Rothwell Willoughby, a brother of Lord Middleton.

Deering, who wrote his History of Nottingham a short time before his death in 1749, when alluding to the rock cellars, on p. 15, mentions those belonging to his house as being amongst the finest of their kind in the town, and "not many years ago . . . hewed out." On p. 231, when referring to Rothwell Willoughby, Esq., he also says:—"This gentleman lives as yet unmarried at Nottingham, where he has built himself a beautiful and well-finished house." From what Deering says, I consider it probable that "Willoughby House" was not erected earlier than 1730, but probably a little before the year 1740.

There is, or once was, a fair quantity of ground on the southern side of the house, and I have been convinced from the official map that it reached to, or near, Broad-marsh. The fencing to the Pavement is in the old style, and of wrought iron, which also applies to the old house next above, at the corner of Drury-

hill, and built by Mr. Gawthorn; no doubt at a somewhat similar date, though I imagine it to be the older of the two.

On a previous occasion I have remarked upon the difference socially, in the class of people once living in the Marsh, to what is now the case, and I shall mention an instance, but will first say that in the eighteenth century it was quite ordinary, even for maiden ladies, to have the title of "Mistress" (Mrs.) or "Madam" attached to their names. For many years previous to 1774 two single ladies (sisters), one styled Madam Cassandra Willoughby (the elder) and the other Mrs. Elizabeth Willoughby, resided in Broad-marsh.

They were daughters of Francis Willoughby, Esq., of Cossall, and relatives of Lord Middleton, of Wollaton Hall. I have frequently looked round in Broad-marsh, and imagined that they lived in what was formerly a good old family residence, which is now a public-house, called "The Black's Head," and believed that at the back, the ground of that house and Willoughby House on the Low-pavement were once connected. The elder sister died in 1774, aged 83 years; and the younger in 1780, at the same age. In the old Manuscript Book, often quoted, and dated 1772, is the following entry:—"Mrs. Willoughby, for the Broad-marsh stables, 10s." This was paid to the Corporation.

OLD NOTTINGHAM.

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c.

XXXII.

On various occasions whilst writing these notes I have, in the interest of accuracy, and with the sole desire to make an official undertaking more reliable and complete, taken exception to some of the statements and conclusions of the two editors, who have been engaged upon the work of searching, and to a large extent preparing for publication the Records of the old Borough of Nottingham.

Five volumes have up to the present time been published. The first four being edited by one gentleman, the fifth by another, and it is much to be hoped that, within a short time and before the expiry of the next year, another capable person may be again selected for the position of Editor, and more volumes be well prepared and in due time published. The first volume is dated 1882 and the last 1900.

It is those alone who have thoroughly and carefully examined the Borough Records who will be fully able to comprehend their great value, for we not only obtain from them an idea respecting the doings of the people on very numerous occasions, but our knowledge of matters relating to the history of the old town generally is much amplified. On p. 128 Deering gives us the names of seventy-seven Mayors only during the years 1302 to 1598 inclusive, and none previous to the first date. The charter for choosing Mayors was granted February 12, 1283-84. The year for which the Mayor was elected commenced at Michaelmas (September 29), and ended at the same date in the following year: until last century (1835), when it was changed to the 9th November, and the twelve months succeeding.

Of the Mayors elected previous to 1302, the Records give us the names of eight, and Deering none, whilst of those elected from A.D. 1302 to 1598 inclusive, or during 297 years, the Records give us the names of all except

fifteen, whereas Deering and others only mention seventy-seven, or but little more than one-fourth. In matters connected with the various streets, gates or roads, lanes, &c., there are many instances where the Records shed much interesting light on various points of history, which previous to 1882 had been perplexing and obscure.

In respect to any future history of Nottingham, whilst in course of being written, reference to them would be constantly necessary, for, though not strictly a history of themselves, they are essentially historical. On pages 12 and 13, Deering gives a list of the various streets, lanes, &c., in the town, and on p. 14 a short description of a number of them. With the great assistance derivable from the Borough Records, I have in many instances, to be found in previous communications, brought them under consideration, and it is interesting, if not amusing, to note numerous assertions made by him, without the help of the Records, and compare them with the facts now obtainable from them, and other new and useful sources of information.

In various instances he appears to have been thoroughly unacquainted with changes of names to streets, &c., which occurred one or two centuries before his time, and I have noticed little, if any, reference to such a matter by him. In Article 14 I explain how the change of name gradually took place from "Flesschewer-gate" (Butcher-gate) to Fletcher-gate (Arrowmakers-gate), in the course of about two centuries ending 100 years previous to Deering's death (1749).

In Article 15 I explain the manner in which Goose-gate obtained its name, and that it was most certainly from Robert Gos, a prominent townsman about 600 years since, during two centuries of which (1450 to 1650) it gradually varied from Gosgat or Gousegat or Gosgate to Goose-gate. I will give one more, and probably the most peculiar change of name, relating to a thoroughfare in Nottingham, and it is the more strange from having apparently occurred from the force of circumstances, and gradually, during about two centuries.

In Article 16 it is brought under consideration. Our modern name for it, as regards the spelling, would be "Great Smith-gate," but 500 or 600 years since it was called Greitsmith-gate, Greysmyth-gate, &c., which ultimately became "Gridlesmith-gate," and barely a century since was re-named Pelham-street. Deering frequently refers to and quotes an anonymous author, and does so in relation to this matter, but the inference amounts to a certainty that they were both quite ignorant of the old name of the thoroughfare; and in a laboured manner an attempt is made to explain the reason for naming it "Gridlesmith-gate."

This "he turns into 'Girdlesmith-gate,' which he (the anonymous author) derives from the dialect of the common people about the confines of Derbyshire and Staffordshire, who call a girdle a gridle, and in this street such lived who made buckles, hooks, and other matters of girdles." Considering that Bridlesmith-gate was a name in use during the whole of the time, it is singularly strange that "Greatsmith-gate" (its old title) should ultimately become "Gridlesmith-gate," which, in sound, is so much the same, and must undoubtedly have caused frequent misunderstandings when mentioned.

1898-1899. It was near this date when the high rocky cliff at Sneinton Hermitage was cut away to a considerable extent, and a wide, excellent road formed, in continuation of Manservant-street, towards Colwick-road. Unless this change had been made I think it probable that the number of houses since erected in that district would have been considerably less than is the case, for those living there are now able to get to many parts of the town, which are practically level with that locality, and soon to Netherfield and Carlton, which way is shortly expected to be formed, the whole of the distance, in a proper and durable manner, and so prevent the crossing of Carlton-hill on numerous occasions.

1898. In this year, on July 25th, the Great Central Railway was first brought into use in and near Nottingham, or, as regarded the new portion of their line, from the neighbourhood

of Annesley and reaching to London. On that date luggage trains commenced running, and for a short time the line in that part was used by them alone. 1900. On May 24th the Great Central Joint Station was opened for passenger traffic.

The making of this large and important station in the centre of the city was undoubtedly a notable event in several ways, and necessitated various costly alterations, even at a distance from it. In Deering's time, or one hundred and sixty years since, the site of the station and near it were fields of grass, and practically the whole of the houses, &c., to the north of Parliament-street have been built since that date. In many respects a large portion of the property on the site of the station, was in an objectionable state when judged by our modern sanitary ideas, and its demolition desirable and undoubtedly beneficial.

I have heard it stated that the station covers a space of eleven acres. It would, of course, be impossible to clear and occupy land of that area, and in a large centre of population, without interfering with various rights of way, drainage, &c., &c. A number of streets and passages in their entirety were abolished, and several thoroughly altered or cut short, and requiring other avenues to be formed for public convenience.

One of these is a footroad about five yards wide, on account of which a bridge was constructed near the centre, and across the station to St. Ann's-street. Then a short distance higher up Mansfield-road a large iron bridge has been made to span the station, over which is formed a new and wide highway to the west end of Union-road. With these opportunities of access the two parts of the city are again fully joined together.

There is, however, another and important matter which must not be overlooked, and that is the outfall for the sewage. The deep excavation for the station in that respect totally severed the two parts of the city. When reminded, many will observe the depression in the ground on Mansfield-road against the end

of Shakespeare-street, for at that part, but on the opposite part of the road, was Charlotte-street, down which formerly ran a very large outfall sewer, for which it was necessary that a new course should be found, as the station went below its level.

To obviate this difficulty, it was necessary to tunnel under the road from there to Parliament-street, down which it was also taken and under the railway bridge in that street, a short distance below the rails, and thence to Our-lane, by which time, or directly after, I doubt not, the sewer was in an excavation, and shortly joined the old portion. I frequently inspected the work as it progressed, and was certain that on some part of Mansfield-road, and near to or in Parliament-street, the bottom of the tunnel could not be any less than forty feet below the level of the roadway. This was at intervals, where shafts were sunk for the purpose of drawing up the sand, which was to spare, when tunnelling the rock.

Some of the amusements of our ancestors, judged by present ideas, were brutish in character, and much to be deprecated. In previous articles I have mentioned the bull-baitings and bear baitings, which in former times were constantly taking place, and I propose in this article to make some remarks upon another objectionable "pastime," which happily has been abolished many years, and it is cock-fighting. As the baitings gradually declined in public estimation, I have no doubt that cock-fighting became more popular and of frequent occurrence.

We have evidence in the Borough Records, Vol. 4, that the barbarous diversion of cock-fighting was indulged in more than three hundred years since; for the Mickletom jury (p. 264), when reporting various encroachments, &c., in 1603, May 12, say:—"Item.—We present Henry Oldfield, belfounder, for enclosing a certayne parcell of grownde commonly called 'Cockpitt' Leyes." In the same Vol., p. 435, the Cockpitt-close is referred to, A.D. 1621-2. It is probable that this field was near St. Ann's Well, for there is full evidence of such fights

constantly occurring at that place. There were also a number of cockpits in the town, many of them being at inns or places of entertainment. (No "hotels" then.)

While writing this I have by me the manuscript diary of a gentleman, dated 1699, which generally has reference to the ordinary matters of life, from which I propose shortly to extract various portions. I have also the manuscript diary of another "gentleman," who kept and reared cocks for fighting purposes, which commences "1760; January ye 1st," or full 144 years since. It may be said, by way of explanation, that a sovereign at that period would be equivalent to three, or probably nearly four, pounds at the present time.

On the first day he tells us that he won at cards 7s. 0d., and on January 23 he says, "Won at Saint Ann's Well cocking (cockfighting), clear of all expenses, 6s. 0d." He then says, "April ye 8, won at Stapleford cocking, clear of all expenses, £1 17s. 0d." On June 16 and 17 he won £1 4s. 0d. at St. Ann's Well. There is then an item respecting which I am rather uncertain. He says, "June 26, won at 'Tetotum' at several times 7s. 0d."

On December 29-30 there appears to have possibly been a cockfight at a private house, for he says, "Won at Gregory Morley's cocking, clear of all expenses, £1 7s. 6d." It must not be supposed that he always won, for he did not, and it is probable that on the balance he was a loser. He gives us an insight into the care and trouble taken when rearing the fowls, for he informs us that he had twelve hatched at his father's, who lived at Colwick. Of these, nine were sent to Somercotes, one remained at his father's, one kept at Shelton's Lodge, and one at Mr. Leiver's barn, Basford.

Then another lot of seven were dispersed to Bridgford, Edwalton, Carlton, Slight's Lodge, Beeston, and Basford. 1761, January 8, another entry says, "Gave and paid Mary Vickerstaff, as a satisfaction for keeping me two hatches of chickens, 5s. 0d." August 8, 1761, he says, "Gave Mr. Machen, for his boy, as a satisfaction for his carrying twelve cock chickens into Derbyshire, &c., 1s."

I have not observed the name of the writer of the diary, but in addition to his father, whose name he does not appear to give, he refers to his sister Swinscoe at Colwick. A considerable sum in the total is entered as the cost of food for the fowls, strikes of barley being frequently purchased, and also some groats. 1763, March 8, he says, "Lost at the White Lion cocking 4s. 0d." At that date it was an inn on the Long-row, and I believe it so continued until the commencement of last century.

On various occasions there are entries similar to the following:—"Gave Samuel Fletcher for a year's cock walk, 2s. 0d." As places having cockpits, St. Ann's Well and Gregory Morley are most frequently mentioned. 1763, July 5: A large and gay assemblage of the nobility and gentry met at Nottingham for the races and cockfighting. Amongst them were the Duke of York, the Dukes of Rutland and Kingston, the Marquis of Granby, and Lords Byron, Strange, and Sutton.

Many dishonourable acts were committed in connection with cockfighting (see Date Book), and an association was formed to prevent or stop them—a large number of fowls had been injured or carried away from their walks, and probably by those who had staked money upon them. "These acts the association was intended to check; but what mainly led to its institution was this: a number of cocks which had been brought from London to fight others belonging to Nottingham in a great match which was expected to come off about the above date, and had drawn to the town many of the aristocracy and moneyed men, were found to have been poisoned with arsenic, so as to disable them from fighting, some person having contrived to get into the cellar at the White Lion Inn, where the fowls were kept; a reward of £50 was offered by Major Brereton for his apprehension." This is a sample of the "good old times" on which we have certainly in some respects improved.

I will now refer to the diary of the gentleman first mentioned, and dating back two hun

dred and five years (1699). The writing is in the contemporary style, and also the mode of spelling. I have not observed his name, but without doubt, from the full evidence that he kept at least twelve men and women servants (names given), and refers to his "Aunt Nudigate," &c. (now Newdigate), he must have been in an excellent social position.

The old Nottingham residence of the Newdigates was at the upper and south-western corner of Castle-gate, in which Marshal Tallard, the French commander, afterwards resided for several years, who was taken prisoner at the Battle of Blenheim on August 13, 1704, by the Duke of Marlborough. The Marshal is credited with having been the first to introduce salads into Nottingham. Respecting the diary and money, which may be mentioned, it must not be forgotten that the modern equivalent for that of two hundred years since, or rather more, would probably be four or five times larger.

He certainly resided away from the town, for mowing, haymaking, and other work on land is mentioned. Few received a shilling per day for wages, but as regards the first part of the diary, at any rate, the remuneration to labourers was ordinarily eightpence per day. Payments of a few shillings "To ye post" are frequent. An early entry is "Paid for a hunting horn, 2s. 6d."

Those whom I consider to have been labourers upon the land do not appear to have been paid weekly, judging by various entries, such as "Jo. Crowshaw for 24 days' work 16s. 0d., George Pallett 20 days 13s. 4d.," and others in the same manner and proportion. On February 15, 1698, he says:—"Paid Ste. (? Stephen) Morris for shoes for the children, and one pair for my wife 16s. 0d.;" and March 2, Jo. Hackett for 4½ days' thatching 4s. 6d. Paid for 3 cotton nightcaps 3s. 0d. Paid for a matt for ye seat in ye church, and 2 basses 5s. 0d. March 8 for a bed and boulstor tick £1 6s. 0d. Baker, for let the child blood, 6s. 0d. March 19 paid for pipes 5s. 0d. March 26, 2d. (? dozen) of trenchers, and a straw hat for Moll 2s. 6d.

"April 6. Paid Mary Timbrill for spinning one lb. of flax, and knitting one pair of stockings 3s. 6d. A piece of fustian £1 12s. 0d. April 12. The window tax 4s. 0d. 18th. 30 beesoms 2s. 6d. 29th. For 2 lobsters 3s. 6d. (a great price). May 4. For a hatt for Fra., 5s. 6d. 5th, for 35 yards of matting for the matted room 17s. 6d. 9th, For a salmon 13s. 4d. 15th, Paid Aunt El. (? Elizabeth) Nudgate interest of £10, 6 months 11 days £1 14s. 0d.

"1699.—May 20, paid a Scotchman for things for my wife £1 10s. 0d." The next is an interesting article, and comparatively a costly one. June 9, "To Mr. Bott for stof for my frock coat and furnet £2 0s. 0d. To Will. Campion for making me a coat and my wife a stomage 9s. 0d. June 13, Paid for 31 yards of flaxen cloath (? homespun linen) at 1s. 11d., total £2 19s. 5d. For a groce of pipes 1s. 4d. For 2lbs. of cherries 1s. 0d. (June 27). 29 July, Paid Judith Parker for spinning for blankets, 6s. 0d.

"September, 1699, Paid for 6 groce of corks 6s. 0d. For a pair of gloves 4s. 6d. October, Paid Mrs. Crysp for a perriwigg £1 4s. 0d. Mary Timberley for knitting 3 pairs of thread stockings and spinning 1lb. of thread 8s. 6d. Paid Mrs. Crisp for a wigg shee is to send down £1 4s. 0d. November, Paid window tax 5s. 0d." The wages of the women servants (five to six, and names mentioned) were from two to three pounds per year, and about six men-servants (names given) thirty shillings to three pounds per year more than women servants. This will give some idea of the domestic life of our ancestors, together with the cost of various articles, full two hundred years since, in or near Nottingham.

OLD NOTTINGHAM

ITS STREETS, PEOPLE, &c

XXXIII.

With some assistance from "The Review" of the period, I propose to give a brief account of the mode adopted by "resurrection men" when despoiling the graves of the dead in Nottingham. There must have been a considerable demand for "bodies" in various parts of the country at the time, for they do not appear to have had any difficulty in disposing of them for the purpose of dissection, &c. Doubtless a few are still left with us who will remember some of these circumstances.

1827.—Thursday, January 18: About five p.m. on that day, when getting dark, a man named Smith, alias Hammond, took a hamper to Messrs. Pickford and Co.'s warehouse, Leenbridge, directed to "S. Rogers, 2, Bucklersbury, London." The suspicion of Mr. White, the bookkeeper, being aroused, and believing something was wrong, he called upon Smith to open the hamper. He endeavoured to appease Mr. White by assuring him that all was correct, but he insisted that Smith should open it or take it away. He said he dare not open it, but would speak to his master, who was near, and went out, leaving the hamper.

Mr. White directed Joseph Arnold, one of Messrs. Pickford's porters, to follow Smith, when, having traced him to Bullivant's-yard, he returned and told Mr. Smith that they were putting a horse into a cart, and he was sure they meant to be off. Ultimately, after a struggle, the men escaped, but the horse and cart were detained. In a short time the hamper was opened, and found to contain the bodies of an aged woman and a little boy, about three and a half years old. They were doubled up into the smallest compass, and packed with straw, which was also stuffed in the woman's mouth, and in that of the child's was wool.

The bodies were replaced in coffins, William Davis, alias "Old Friday," the gravedigger to

St. Mary's parish, being compelled to place them therein, an office which he performed with great reluctance. I remember him well as being looked upon with great loathing and suspicion some years afterwards. The bodies were shortly recognised, the child by its mother, Mrs. Rose; and the aged woman proved to be Mrs. Dorothy Townsend, who had only been buried on Wednesday (the previous day), having died the Sunday before on Richmond Hill. In a short time she was again interred.

These abominable acts appear to have occurred almost exclusively in the now disused burial grounds (three) in or near to Barker-gate. They caused a terrible amount of anxiety, and a great commotion in the town amongst those having relatives and friends interred there, numerous graves being searched, of which some had not been interfered with, but in a number of other cases the coffins were found to be empty, except of the grave clothes.

The excitement was intense. Included in the many robberies, one woman lost two children, who had been buried closely after each other; another woman had recently buried her husband, but no body was in the grave when opened. She was taken away insensible, with her four children, to a house in Silverwood's-place. Whilst excavating a -shaped turn-screw was found—a tool well adapted for opening coffins. The sight was grievous; bitter tears were shed, and vengeful imprecations uttered against those who for money had caused so much sorrow.

None of the men were apprehended, and they must have kept themselves carefully secluded. Davis ("Old Friday") was thoroughly believed to be implicated, but nothing could be proved. Popular vengeance, however, was roused against him to such a degree that he was mobbed, both in Nottingham and Arnold, and very narrowly escaped with his life. I remember seeing him excavating a grave, seven years after this event—namely, in May, 1834. The exact number of bodies removed will never be known, but about thirty of the graves reopened were found to have had the remains stolen of those who had been buried in them.

1839.—May 30: On that day the railway to Derby was first used, and in a moderate time afterwards special trains were introduced, and proved successful in satisfying the people, and years afterwards in paying the shareholders. There was an early special train, which, in one respect, has seldom, or never, been surpassed in the town, and perhaps not equalled. It was from Nottingham to Derby, and composed of eighty-four carriages.

In that respect I think it excels, though as regards their room for passengers it is very likely that recent trains are quite equal to it, for at that date the carriages had not only very few compartments, but I am also convinced that they were narrower, and believe that twenty-five, to thirty at most, of our large and modern carriages would be fully equal to the eighty-four mentioned.

In a year or two after the canal was opened (on July 30, 1793), or in September, 1797, the Date Book tells us that "A Mr. Redfern commenced running a 'packet-boat,' for the conveyance of passengers (on the canal), twice a week, between Nottingham and Cromford. The fare was 5s. best cabin, and 3s. second best. Passengers were also taken to Leicester in a similar boat, first room 5s., second 2s. 6d., starting from Mr. Maddock's, the Navigation Tavern."

A shilling at that date would be the equivalent for about 3s. at the present time, therefore, they were costly outings, and many would, no doubt, much prefer to walk to the two places. Even 2s. 6d. would be about equal to the wages of a labouring man, in most towns, for two days' work, 110 years since. In Article 44 I refer to the greatest modern flood in this district, which happened in February, 1795, and that Mr. John Bradshaw contracted to carry out a portion of the work necessary, to make good the damage done.

I now desire to say that he also (going back full seventy-five years) was probably the first to have a steam vessel plying upon the Trent, and chiefly, if not entirely, between Notting-

ham and Gainsborough. This was, of course, a number of years before railways were running near here. Mr. Bradshaw was prepared to take passengers to Gainsborough, which, in fine weather, with the river moderately full, would probably prove an enjoyable outing, though occasionally the vessel would stick upon a sandbank for an hour or two, when passing down or coming up the river, which was very undesirable, but when going to Gainsborough some would then take the coach to Scarborough, Hull, &c.

I do not know the ordinary charge for such a journey, but am well aware how much easier, cheaper, and with far greater speed and comfort, the excursion can now be made than at the date named. On the canal, even with an "express boat," it is probable that the progress would not be more than four miles an hour, but in going "down" the Trent the steamer of that day, when unimpeded, might perhaps accomplish twelve miles an hour.

I here desire to make a few more remarks respecting the road to Mapperley Hill by Red-lane, and also to the part where, as regards Nottingham, it ended. In past times the whole length of the way from Mansfield-road to the termination of the borough was in the town, though on its extreme verge, according to the rare old map, and when going from Mansfield-road. Basford Parish is shown to bound it to the left, or north-west, until the borough terminated, against Gedling Parish. There is scarcely a house or other building shown at that time as being on the top of Mapperley Hill.

To the right of the road, commencing near the bottom of the last hill, and extending to where the borough and Gedling Parish adjoined, there was a quantity of land, which in olden times was open to the public, or commonable all the year, the same as Nottingham Lings, or the Forest (as now named), was formerly. On the south-eastern side of this land, at its lower end, the two Trough Closes touched upon it, and next above them it was the same with the Hungerhills.

Then came the Coppices. Three are shown,

but the first is furthest from the town. Here was the north-western side of the old Nottingham Wood. In the total it probably covered what afterwards formed eight or ten fields. St. Ann's Well was (on the opposite side of the ground) included with a field or two in this part of the Corporation Chamber Estate. In the names of the fields there are St. Ann's Close, Home Close, Square Close, Spring Wood Close, Top Close, Nether Top Close, Flinder's Close, and two entitled Stone Pit Close. Further from the town, and reaching to the borough boundary adjoining Gedling, were nine other fields, belonging to the Corporation Bridge Estate.

With this, the last part of Article No. 33, the Second Series of "Notes on Old Nottingham" will come to a conclusion. There are, however, still a few thoroughfares, which have been altered, widened, or thoroughly made by the Corporation, the changes connected with which must be recorded.

The first road to consider is one, as regards the circumstances under which it was formed, is very different to any other, and it connects Meadow-lane with London-road, by way of the Cattle Market. It was made or first used at the same time as the Market, in 1836, but except on market days, there was no regular thoroughfare until 1902, when it was fully brought into use and is certainly a great convenience to many.

1901.—July 25: The Victoria Embankment by the Trent side was opened. This is one of the finest promenades belonging to the city. 1901.—The four thoroughfares surrounding Trinity Church were all considerably widened by ground taken from the churchyard. The change was one much to be desired, especially as regards Milton-street or Mansfield-road, from its contiguity to the Victoria Station, and also from being an important route for the electric tram lines.

I shall now refer to a short, and no doubt very old, but, judged by present requirements, an important and central thoroughfare, its modern name being High-street. On Deering's map (1745) it has the same title, but on page

13, when referring to it, he says: "Sadler-gate, now called High-street." I have not seen any reference to it in the Borough Records under either of these names; the last volume published, ends with A.D. 1702. According to Deering, the street in his time had not long been known by the latter name.

For several centuries before his time, and until about 1812, the space between the north end of Bridlesmith-gate and the south end of what is now called High-street, was entitled "The Hen Cross" or "Women's Market." Though High-street does not appear to have had any special name attached to it, I have little doubt that it was once known as "Hencrosse-rowe." In the Records, Vol. 4, p. 438, in reference to it there is the following:—"A.D. 1583, a messuage near the Hencrosse abutting upon the street adjoining the said Cross."

We are then referred to "Panyer" on page 440, and are there told that in "A.D. 1552 William Rose brings a writ of right against Joan Stapleton, widow of John Rose, regarding the messuage known as 'le Panyer,' in Hencrosse-rowe." Judging by Speed's old map (1610), "the rowe" must have been on the eastern side of the roadway, for the other was considerably shorter, as shown, and with an opening in it. I believe these to be the only occasions on which I have observed some old references, to that well-known and now important street. In 1902-3 it was much increased in width on its eastern side.

1897-98.—Considerable changes were made in the two passages of Garner's Hill and Middle Hill, connecting High-pavement, &c., with Middle-marsh, when making the Great Central Railway at the part where it enters or emerges from the tunnel, under a portion of the middle part of the city, and at the same time an appreciable addition was made to the size of Weekday Cross, under which the railway passes.

In Article 52 I give a short account of the tolls which, by Charter, in olden times the Corporation of Nottingham were empowered to exact, from places as distant as Newark and

Retford, but to a great extent in the valley of the Trent, though the burgesses of the town were, to a large degree, if not thoroughly, free from such charges themselves in other places.

In the Borough Records, at various dates, commencing soon after A.D. 1560, the Chamberlains in their accounts mention payments which were made by them, for the repairs of "chains" at the end of various important thoroughfares. In 1572 they say:—"Item paid to Maister Cadman for 9lb. of cyron (iron), and workemanshpy of the same, for the cheyne at the Chappyll Barre." And also:—"Item payed to Lorence Hynde for a cheyre, and a stapylle for the March (Marsh) end, weyinge 50lb., at 2d. a lb., 8s. 0d." In 1621 there is an "Item for mendinge the Chaynes at Stony-streete," and also "at Marshe end, and a staple."

In 1627, "Item for mendynge the chayne at Bridgend (Plumptre-square), 2s. 2d. Item paid Maister Perrie for mendinge the chaynes in the towne in severall places, 8s. 3d." At these dates a shilling would be the average equivalent for nearly ten shillings at the present time. The chains with but little doubt were for the purpose of forming a bar across the ends of various thoroughfares, and demanding toll upon sundry matters brought into the town, which were liable to a charge. If I do not remember a chain, I seem to have a dim recollection of a rope being used for the purpose from sixty-five to seventy years since.

While writing this, I have by me a schedule of the various matters liable to toll at that time, and the amounts payable on each, of which I will give a copy. It was in use by a collector (Mr. Thomas Spencer) on Derby-road at Goose Fair, &c., in the early part of last century. It is as follows:—"Town and County of the Town of Nottingham.—The following are the Customs, and Tolls, which the Mayor and Burgesses of the Town of Nottingham have been accustomed to take, within the said Town and County, during all Fairs held therein, viz.:—For every waggon laden with Goods, Wares, or Merchandise, 8d. For every

Cart laden with ditto, 4d. For every Pack of Wooll, 1d. For every Stocking-knitter's Frame, 4d. For every Horse, Mare, Colt, or Filly, sold in the Town, 4d. For every Bull, 4d. For every Ox, Steer, Heifer, or Swine, 2d. For a Pair of Mill-stones, 4d. For every Pair of Smithy Bellows, 4d. For every Dairy of Cheese Standing for Sale in the Market, 2d."

In the Records, Vol. 5, p. 416, is an early and interesting reference to Sir Thomas White's loans, namely:—"1661.—August 14: Bond in £80 from the Mayor and Burgesses of the town of Nottingham to the Mayor, Bailiffs, and commonalty of the 'Citie of Coventry,' for the distribution of money from Sir Thomas White's Charity, i.e., £40, unto fower young men of the same Towne, for nyne yeares, according to the mind, devise, and intent of Sir Thomas White, late of London, Merchant Taylor, and Alderman, deceased."

1857.—September 24: On that day we are informed in the Date Book that pillar letter-boxes were first erected in Nottingham, and that in "1858, May 24, Nottingham postmen first appeared in uniform." This is in complete accordance with my recollection, but contrary to a statement which I recently saw respecting the times previous to 1840, when letters were dear. It was asserted that the postman started on his rounds, having 'a red coat,' &c., &c. This is quite contrary to my remembrance and that of many others, as well as to what is mentioned in the Date Book. In the latter part of Article 44 I refer to the "three postmen" of 1833, mentioning William Brown, of whom I retain in memory at that date, and for at least seven years later, a full recollection, but he most certainly did not wear any sort of livery or uniform, which would also undoubtedly be the case with the others.

I wish to terminate these articles by bringing under consideration the various markets now or formerly connected with Nottingham, but specially in reference to the Great Market-place. Many of my fellow-citizens who are still left will, with myself, remember when a very different state of things existed to what is now the case, for practically the Great Market was

the only one in use.

Going back from fifty to sixty years, cattle and sheep were brought to, and sold in, the half nearest to Beast Market-hill. The sheep were in "pens," which were fixed close to the road across that end. They were formed of "fleaks," owned even at that date by the Corporation, being fixed on Tuesday and removed each Wednesday, and stored in a large shed, the site of which is now occupied by the back part of the Albert Hotel, on Derby-road. The cattle were placed more towards the centre of the Market, and next the stalls.

For a considerable period in the remembrance of many, they were not enclosed to prevent them from moving to other parts or getting on the causeways, &c. Afterwards this was remedied, for iron sockets with hinged lids were fixed in the ground at short distances, and in them wooden posts, full six inches square, were fitted. These had holes bored through them, in which ropes were inserted, and a fence was thus formed in the parts where desirable. This system continued in use until A.D. 1870, when the sheep and cattle market was removed to the ground now occupied by the Guildhall, &c., in Burton-street.

The land on the opposite side of Sherwood-street, on which the University College stands, was during some years used for and termed "The Horse Fair Close." The sheep, &c., were removed from this part on the opening of the Cattle Market near London-road, September 23, 1886, or just previous to Goose Fair of that year. Alderman Lambert was Mayor, Mr. F. Acton chairman of committee, and Mr. Joseph Radford clerk of the markets. The first beast disposed of in that market belonged to the Mayor, and was offered by auction by Mr. Bradwell, and sold for £22 5s. 0d. to Mr. Curtis Machin.

Until about the year 1872 the method of arranging the stalls, &c., in the Market-place was entirely unsystematic, and lacking in thought or care, a large portion of the space being practically wasted. Rows of granite squares ran in the pavement between Beast Market-hill and the Exchange, as a guide by which to fix the

stalls. In my early days there were a number of persons called "squatiers," who exposed their wares for sale spread out on the ground, some of which were composed of second-hand articles in iron, of numerous sorts.

The stalls were of many different kinds and sizes, some belonging to those who used them, but much the larger number were fixed and let weekly by outsiders, the charge being a penny per foot frontage on Saturdays, and a half-penny additional when also used on Wednesdays. Strange to say, these owners of stalls, though obtaining their living from the Market, positively paid nothing whatever towards its expenses. The two persons supplying the greater portion of the stalls, would doubtless be Mr. Merrin, of Derby-road, and Mr. Peck, of Mount East-street.

There were some freemen or burgesses who as such, claimed eight feet of space for a stall or standing, which generally was understood as applying to the frontage, but the depth backward was in quantity very indefinite. Singular to say, a few country people also claimed to be free to sell their produce, cattle, &c., in the Market, saying that they were "chartered," or calling themselves "charter men."

As a close reader, not only of the histories of Nottingham, but specially of the Borough Records, I am compelled to believe that their claims were thoroughly baseless, and as having been assumed but never conferred. In fact, I certainly should not have been disposed to allow them, unless their authority was fully explained and produced. For many years which some of us can remember, the attention given to the Market-place generally, together with its arrangements, &c., &c., was very inadequate, and consequently resulted in a great loss to the borough funds.

Fortunately for us all, there has during the last thirty to thirty-three years, been a most appreciable and desirable change for the better, and this has occurred since the appointment of Mr. Joseph Radford, the present energetic clerk of the markets. In most particulars, even to the disposing of the stalls in the opposite direction to the former mode, there has

been a "revolution." Commencing in June, 1882, the city now supplies the stalls, which are made and fixed in a manner so as to strictly economise the space, and there are by these means, a greater number on much less ground. Then the freemen were prevented from taking more than their proper share, when having a standing free, and also often enjoying a burgess part.

The interlopers or so-called "charter men" were stopped in their unjustifiable claims, and all are now treated fairly and equitably. But with what result? The "revolution" does not apply to the "arrangement" only, but at times when statements have been made public respecting the income from the markets, it has been with much pleasure I have noticed that the receipts, proportionately in their increase, had been as much "revolutionised" as any other matters, for they had more than trebled. In the interest of the city, we have cause for hoping that Mr. Radford, aided by his efficient assistants, may continue able for a number of years longer to superintend the arrangements, &c., of the markets.

Respecting the manuscript diary, dated 1699, and referred to in the last part of Article 63, I have fortunately found that the writer was Francis Mundy, a name still well known in Derbyshire as owners of land and collieries.

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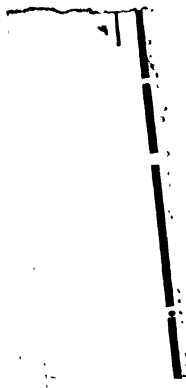
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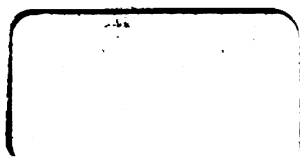
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